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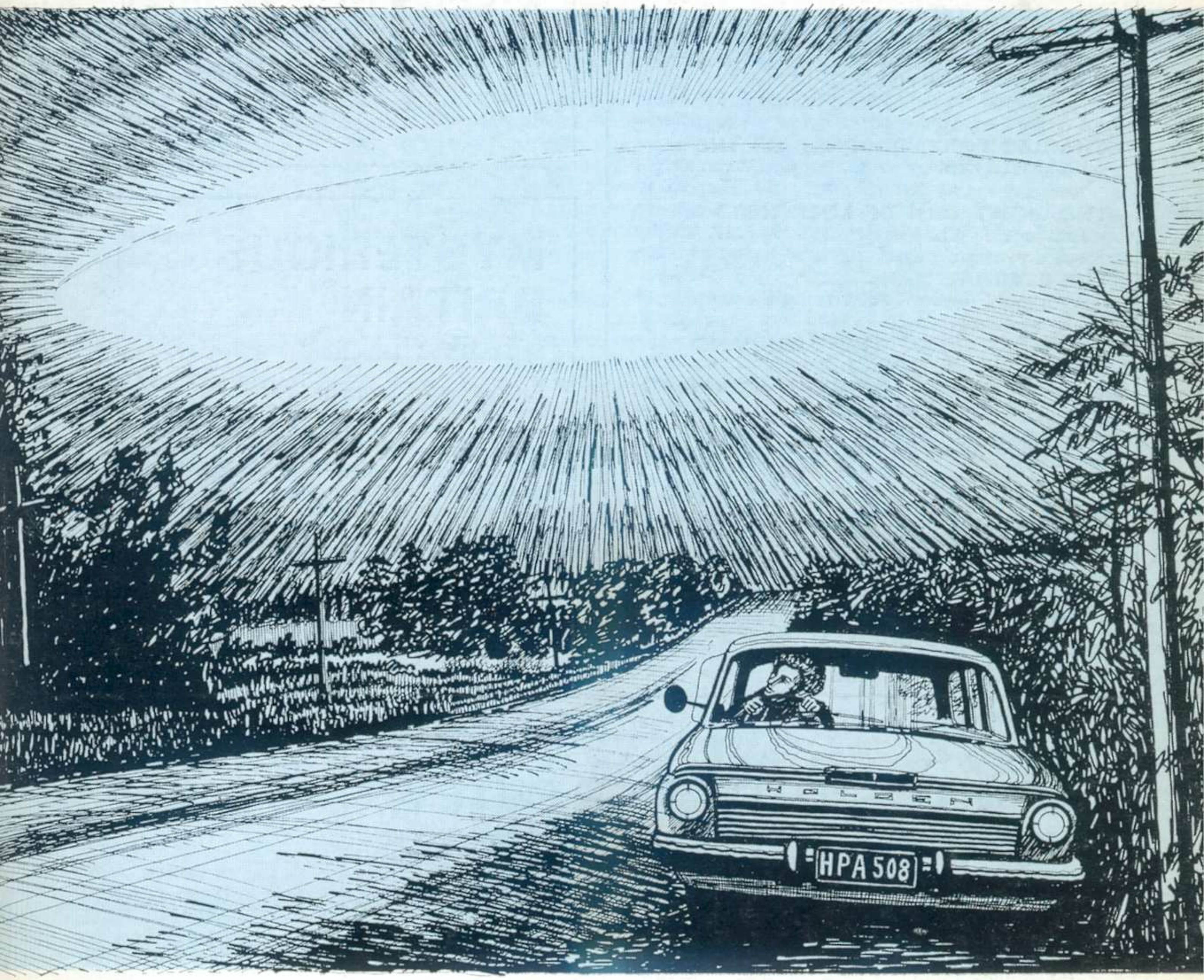

An Australian "Auto-Stop" Affair . . .

UFO OVER THE MOORADUC ROAD

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FLYING SAUCER REVIEW

FSR

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FINGERHOLDS, TOEHOLDS

THE publication in London of Dr. J. Allen Hynek's new book, *The UFO Experience*, was the occasion for a welcome return to the United Kingdom, albeit for only a brief visit, of the author, the Northwestern University professor of astronomy, Director of the Lindheimer Astronomical Research Center and former scientific consultant to the United States Air Force on UFO reports. At the press reception given by the publishers, Messrs. Abelard-Schuman, it was a pleasure for the FSR team to meet Dr. Hynek and our hosts, and to see there, among other guests, Mr. Roger Stanway, chairman of BUFORA.

It was an interesting experience to observe the reactions of members of the press after talking first to Dr. Hynek, and then to other researchers who had had long and serious involvement with UFO reports. We imagine some of them had arrived half expecting to find present a gaggle of fanatics, and we expect many of them went away surprised, perhaps puzzled and disturbed, after hearing of the global aspect of the phenomenon and the staggering nature of many of the unsolved cases which, in the name of Science, had been shrugged off in such a cynical manner by officially sponsored investigatory bodies.

Although during his four days in London he was very busy with interviews, recording and filming sessions, Dr. Hynek still found time for two excellent and happy private evenings with members of the FSR team. It was generally felt that, despite excellent reviews of the book,* and the promise of good notices due to appear elsewhere, the cliff-hanging fingerholds which, in face of the buffetings of orthodoxy serious investigators have maintained in their climb towards the peak of respectability, have been reinforced only by new toeholds. This fact was underlined when BBC-TV declined to interview Dr. Hynek, and again in the *New Worlds* interview by Dr. C. Evans (October 26) when Dr. Hynek's statements were followed most pointedly by an interview with that well-known diehard anti-UFO supporter of the orthodox establishment, Mr. Patrick Moore. The memory of Dr. Hynek's carefully chosen words must have been swamped for most listeners by the crescendo of Moorish sound as the TV astronomer delivered himself of a reading of a nonsense extract from a funny book that he has co-authored with Desmond Leslie.

The cliff face that leads to the summit still presents a formidable obstacle. Nevertheless fingerholds and toeholds together are better than fingerholds alone. Dr. Hynek has courageously performed an excellent service in the drive to impress his colleagues of the need to research with care all aspects of the persistent UFO reports. There are heartening signs that many younger scientists even now are considering ways of taking up the challenge.

* Dr. Murray's review in the American journal *Science* (see the Editorial of FSR for September-October, 1972) was followed on October 26th by a favourable review in the British journal *New Scientist* by Dr. Anthony Michaelis. On the same day there was an excellent review in the London *Evening News* by Kenneth Allsop.

HOAXER CONFESSES AFTER TEN YEARS

IT is a well-known fact that UFO photographs are the least reliable evidence of the existence of the UFO phenomenon. Good reliable photographs—genuine pictures of something which, when observed, usually puzzles the photographer—are taken only on rare occasions. The less reliable pictures, and the out-and-out hoax photographs, plague UFO research with monotonous regularity.

Perhaps the underlying cause of this state of affairs is that credulous and easily impressed people, as well as many of those with a close interest in the subject, clamour to "see" something. The "less reliable" category includes genuine misinterpretations of images on a negative which may be put down to lens flares, flaws in the film, developing marks and so on. Deliberate hoaxes, however, present considerable problems, for great pains are usually taken in the execution of the false photographs. These can pass the scrutiny of the photographic specialists because everything appears on the negative just as it should be, had, for example, a luminous object been present.

With no funds to back it, UFO research does not have the benefit of a forensic laboratory staffed by qualified full-time technicians and investigators. So after submission for the best available attention, photographs are usually published with reservations (such as: "this is a genuine photograph of an unknown luminous object," and so on). The chances are that one day a hoax photographer will make an unguarded statement, or reliable evidence will come to light that does not tally with the description given. All that wil, remain then is the bitterness.

* * * * *

At about 6.40 p.m. on the evening of October 6l 1972, an old favourite among UFO photographs was swept from grace during a BBC-2 TV news and magazine programme. The occasion was an interview with Mr. Rex Dutta about a book he has written.

The photograph in question was taken by Alex Birch (14), in the presence of two friends, during February 1962 at Mosborough, near Sheffield. It was said that Alex had been photographing his dog when the group saw five saucer-shaped objects about 500ft. in the sky. In motionless formation, they made no sound. A snapshot was taken on the old box camera before the objects disappeared. We were told that the photographs had remained undeveloped for some weeks, and it was not until June 20, 1962, that the news broke in the *Sheffield Telegraph*. The boys were interviewed by reporters, and by one of their schoolmasters, who saw them separately. No discrepancies were found in their stories. The photograph was later published by Waveney Girvan in FSR Vol. 8, No. 5 (September/October 1962). Mr. Girvan concluded that *if the boys were telling the truth* then the photograph was a genuine one of saucers in flight.

The story, however impressive, was not treated without suspicion. Mr. A. Lloyd-Taylor, for many years in important positions in Civil Aviation, and a very early subscriber to the *Review*, wrote to Mr. A. Birch, father of Alex, on September 12, 1962. With the knowledge of Mr. Girvan, he was seeking further details, and posing a few questions. In his letter he agreed that one must assume the bona-fide nature of the accounts, and that the fuzziness of the objects might have been caused by movement, *or that they might have been out of focus*—which would have meant that they were considerably nearer to the camera than the trees, and must therefore have been small objects, and low down. On September 14, 1962, Mr. Birch replied, stating that he found Mr. Lloyd-Taylor's letter "in very poor taste." He affirmed that his son was no trickster, and that the boy's story had satisfied Air Ministry officials after a 2¾-hour interview.

On October 6, 1972, Alex Birch, now 24, admitted in front of TV cameras that in 1962 he was a trickster — and, therefore, a redoubtable liar. He told viewers that he had taken the photograph of the background of trees through a sheet of glass on which he had painted the five objects. He had also revealed to *The Star*, *Sheffield* (published on October 6, 1972, the evening of his broadcast) that his father did not learn of the hoax until October 5, 1972.

As has been said on many an occasion, the existence of hoax photographs of "UFOs" does not prove the non-existence of the UFO problem. While we learn through bitter experience that photographs are the least reliable evidence, we should concentrate on investigating and seeking corroboration of the good, spontaneous and unsolicited visual UFO reports from responsible people. Photographs will still be published, but they should be treated with greater caution than ever.

CHARLES BOWEN.

UFO OVER THE MOORADUC ROAD

Judith Magee

Mrs. Magee is Secretary of the Victoria UFO Research Society of PO Box 43, Moorabbin, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia.

HERE is an account of the remarkable experiences of an eye witness who falls in the category labelled "repeaters" by some researchers.* The witness is Mrs. Maureen Puddy of Rye, a holiday and residential town on the Mornington Peninsula in the Australian State of Victoria, close to both Port Pillip Bay and the Bass Strait.

It was after her second experience on Tuesday, July 25, 1972, that her story hit the news wires. Soon after her report was made public I was able to speak to her by telephone for an hour, and three weeks later she was guest speaker at a meeting of the Victorian UFO Research Society. For more than an hour she held spellbound an audience of 200, who plied her with questions until we had to rescue her with a cup of tea!

Here is an account of Mrs. Puddy's bizarre experiences, as told to the Society:

The witness, aged 27, is certainly no crank, and impressed everyone with her sincerity. She has an invalid husband and two children, a boy of seven and a girl of five. The little boy suffered a bad injury to his leg in an accident at the end of June, and was in hospital at Heidelberg, to the north of Melbourne.

First encounter: pursuit

On the evening of July 5, 1972, Mrs. Puddy was driving home along the Mooraduc Road, between Frankston and Dromana, some 35 miles south-east of Melbourne. Her attention was drawn to a blue light which seemed to be coming from above and behind her car, a 1963 *Holden*. When her little boy had been injured he had been taken to hospital by the Angels of Mercy helicopter ambulance, and it occurred to her that this light might be from the helicopter, flying low. It did not occur to her at the time that had it been the helicopter flying at what was virtually zero feet she would certainly have been able to have heard it, and to have seen the effects of the air disturbance which it caused. She stopped the car and got out to take a look: she wasn't prepared for what she saw!

A huge object was hovering above, and completely overlapping the road at both sides, at an altitude of just over that of two telegraph poles—and there were telegraph poles at the side of the road to enable her to make this comparison. In fact, Mrs. Puddy said that if the UFO had come straight down to land, it would have struck the poles. This made possible an estimate of the size of the object, for the road surface itself is 24ft. wide, to which one must add the width of the nature strips on either side up to the poles. Mrs. Puddy feels that the UFO was at least 100ft. in diameter. (This is a revision of an estimate of 50ft. quoted in earlier reports in the press.)

The UFO was shaped like two huge saucers, one inverted on top of the other, with a smooth surface, no joins, welds, seams or rivets, no windows, doors or portholes, and no wheels. And this great object was radiating a brilliant blue light all around, not in beams, but in an intense glow. There was no sign of movement, no wobbling or rotating, but there was a faint humming noise. Her eyes must have registered all these details in the time it takes for idle curiosity to turn into terror: she tumbled back into the car and drove off as fast as she could. The experience became a nightmare when she realised that the object was staying in its position above and behind the car. No matter how fast she drove the object followed her, maintaining the same position. Then, suddenly, the nightmare passed. Aware that the blue glow was no longer with her, Mrs. Puddy barely had time to see a light streaking away in the opposite direction. The "chase" had lasted about 8 miles.

The witness reported the incident to the police, and then told members of her family about it, and a few friends. Some of them treated it as a joke, and she was subjected to the usual leg-pulling. She said nothing more about it for the best part of three weeks.

Second encounter: "auto-stop" and "messages"

On Tuesday, July 25, 1972, Maureen Puddy was driving home to Rye after visiting her son in hospital at Heidelberg when, at near enough the same time, and at almost the same place on the Mooraduc Road, she says she became aware of a blue light all around her car. "Oh, hell! Not again!" she thought, and added that, as, after her first experience she desperately wanted to get away from the thing, she bent forward determinedly and put her foot down hard on the accelerator. To her intense alarm this had no effect, for the Holden's engine cut out, and she seemed to lose control of the steering so that the car swung to the verge of the road as it slowed to a halt.

It had been a dark, clear night, yet now the car, the road and verges, and the surrounding trees and bushes, were bathed in a blue light. A terrified Mrs. Puddy sat motionless, bending forward and gripping the steering wheel. She states that she felt as if she was in a vacuum.

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* In his book *The UFO Experience*, Dr. J. Allen Hynek writes that the "repeater" aspect of some UFO reporters is sufficient cause, in his opinion, to exclude their reports from further consideration . . . (p. 30). There are those who will disagree with this view—EDITOR.

Mrs. Puddy beside her car where it stopped on July 25. Our cover illustration is based on a view of the car from the trees in the background

She peered upwards through the windscreen and saw part of the rim of a glowing object hanging in the air above her car.

At this point she suddenly became aware of a "voice" —not audible, but as if in her head, or mind—saying: "All your tests will be negative." Soon this was followed by: "Tell media, do not panic, we mean no harm." Then a short interval, followed by: "You now have control." At that the vacuum effect disappeared and the car engine started up.† Frightened to the verge of panic, Mrs. Puddy drove away as quickly as she could. On arrival at the police station she was still very agitated, but despite her shaky condition her description of the incident was sufficiently lucid to convince the police that something very alarming had occurred. The police informed the Royal Australian Air Force.

Discussing the "messages" she had received, Mrs. Puddy told us she couldn't imagine what was meant by "tests" for she herself had had no medical examinations or tests. As for the second message, the word "media" was not one that she would use, although she had been aware vaguely that it meant instruments of mass communication like broadcasting and newspapers. The implication of the final "message" was obvious enough to her, for from that moment she was able to take control once again of the car.

As for the delivery of the "messages" she supposed it was a kind of telepathy, although she didn't know anything about that subject. She said it was if the messages were coming to her in a foreign tongue that translated itself into English, but of a kind that she, and people like her, would not speak. She also voiced the opinion that the UFO was not occupied by beings, but was, possibly, remotely controlled. "Computerised", she also suggested. Those were the impressions she gained from the absence of windows, portholes or doors.

She estimated that she was stationary, in the vacuum-like condition, for about five minutes.

Mrs. Puddy told us that she telephoned the RAAF to see if they could offer an explanation as to what it was she saw. This they could not do, but she was told that there were no aircraft in the area at that time, and she was advised to remain quiet about the incident rather than chance causing panic. She declined to take this advice for, in view of the second of the messages, she decided it might be best to "tell the media." She had a strong feeling that if she didn't do this the UFO might come back, and she had no wish to see it again.

She thereupon telephoned Channel 0, where there was some interest as the film *Chariot of the Gods* was due to be

† I hope Mrs. Magee can clear up a point here: did the witness mean that the car re-started of its own accord, or did she operate the starter?—EDITOR.

shown. She was interviewed about her claims, and a segment of this was put out after the film. Her experience with Channels 7 and 9 was quite different, for they just laughed at her story. After that she did not even consider ringing any others.

Among the questions asked at our meeting were: did she think what she saw was a psychic phenomenon? and, did she suffer any burns or after-effects? To both of these the reply was, no.

Article in a popular periodical

On August 24, 1972, the *Australasian Post* published Mrs. Puddy's story, and reported an interview with her. In the article it was pointed out that although the Mornington Peninsula is fairly well populated, stretches of the Mooraduc Road are quite desolate, and there are few people about. Furthermore, although traffic can be considerable, after dusk the intervals between passing cars can be as long as five or even ten minutes. As for Mrs. Puddy's estimate of five minutes in the "vacuum" readers are reminded that "five minutes" is a figure of speech often used to describe dragging time which could really be a period of much shorter duration.

Another question posed in the *Post* was that if the bright UFO was hovering for a period of time as she said it was, why wasn't it seen from a distance? To which the answer was: "It might have been. It could have been seen by people who wondered what it was without considering it important enough to bother about. If it was there very briefly—and this is a distinct possibility, accepting the idea that Mrs. Puddy's 'five minutes' was a gross over-estimate, although an honest assessment of the situation as she experienced it—there could have been others in the surrounding country who glimpsed the light in the sky and promptly forgot it when it disappeared."

Reporter Ken Collie of the *Australasian Post* then remarked that there are some interesting footnotes to this answer, and this is how he presented them:

"At about 10 o'clock on the night of July 25, which puts it at roughly three-quarters of an hour after what Mrs Puddy says happened on the Mooraduc Rd., a young man came out into a street after a dental appointment at Mount Waverley, a south-eastern suburb of outer Melbourne.

"He was **Maris Ezergailis** (Australian-born of Latvian parents), 21, a junior engineering executive in a business established by his father.

"By training and outlook, Mr Ezergailis is a practical man. A realist. As such he is not in general terms susceptible to irrational happenings. To add to his feet-on-the-ground attitude to what he sees, is the fact that he is a qualified air pilot licensed to fly commercially.

"And what *did* he see on July 25? Something that didn't quite make sense to him. A flash of blue light from the sky, and when he looked up—a meteor trail, *but an unusually broad one, travelling horizontally!*

"Just a streak of light and it was gone, but it left him wondering. It was the horizontal path that bothered him. Told about what Mrs Puddy says she saw on the Mooraduc Rd. a short time before, he is interested, but non-committal. And still wondering.

"(*Mrs Puddy reacted strongly when told about what Mr Ezergailis saw. 'That's the way it looked when it took off the first time I saw it,' she said. 'A wide streak of light and then nothing.'*)

"Then there was the experience of **Mr and Mrs Beel,** who live on Main Ridge, Rye. An unusual light in the sky, looking west from their home (*this would have placed it in the direction of the place described by Maureen Puddy*) caught Mr Beel's attention and intrigued him to the point of getting some binoculars and dousing the house lights.

"It was too far away to identify with certainty, but there was something going on in the sky—'*Something unlike anything we'd seen before*,' Mrs Beel told us. And this on the night of July 25 at some time after nine o'clock.

"But the one man Mrs Puddy has been hoping to catch up with hadn't come forward up to the time this magazine went to press.

"As she was approaching the railway crossing, where Mooraduc Rd. crosses the railway line to Mornington, on that Tuesday night, she saw a man with what she at first thought was a bicycle. It turned out that the man was walking, carrying a flashlight and leading a cow.

"She passed him, travelling in the opposite direction and started up the gentle slope to where the road dips before climbing again.

" 'Why didn't he come back to see what it was?' she asks. 'He must have seen it!'

"Perhaps he did; but after all, he was walking away from it and would have been a mile or so from her when Mrs Puddy says the UFO came down over her car. Chances are he didn't see anything, or anything that caught his attention for long enough to register. Or if he reads this perhaps he'll remember and say so.

"Mrs Puddy says she won't drive along that road again at night unless she has company.

"One thing emerges clearly from the whole affair:

"Maureen Puddy once scoffed at the idea of flying saucers.

"Now she doesn't."

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A TURNING POINT IN UFO INVESTIGATION

Charles H. Gibbs-Smith, M.A., Hon. Companion RAeS, FRSA

A GREAT service has recently been rendered to science by the distinguished American astronomer, Professor J. Allen Hynek. Dr. Hynek is at present Director of the Lindheimer Astronomical Research Centre at Northwestern University and Chairman of the university's Astronomy Department. He has also served as Associate Director of the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory at Cambridge, Mass., as well as heading its NASA-sponsored Satellite Tracking Programme. Last but not least, for my readers, Dr. Hynek was for over 20 years the U.S. Air Force's scientific consultant on UFOs, and the signal service referred to above is the publication in the USA (*and subsequently in the United Kingdom*) of his new book, *The UFO Experience: a Scientific Inquiry*.*

What he has done may be described in brief as at last taking the subject of Unidentified Flying Objects out of the hands of the neurotics—lay and scientific neurotics alike. Those of us professionally concerned with UFOs have for many years had to cope with the lay neurotics and the obviously lunatic fringe. But it is not generally realised that there are just as many neurotics among scientists as amongst ordinary citizens, and we have had to wait till now for a ranking scientist to cope with the latter. A neurotic, by the way, is a person suffering from "a condition of emotional maladjustment to reality, arising from unconscious inner conflicts, and manifested by a variety of mental, emotional, physical and behaviour symptoms." Such a state is perfectly compatible with scientific brilliance. Let us listen to Professor Eysenck:

> "Scientists, especially when they leave the particular field in which they have specialised, are just as ordinary, pig-headed and unreasonable as anybody else, and their unusually high intelligence only makes their prejudices all the more dangerous . . ."

A saying attributed to Alexis Carrel runs: "It is the duty of science not to discard facts merely because they seem to be extraordinary, and because they remain inexplicable." And Dr. Hynek adds that "the history of science has shown that it is the things that *don't* fit, the apparent exceptions to the rule, that signal potential breakthroughs in our concept of the world about us."

And there is also the Canadian philosopher of science, Thomas Goudge, who writes: "a necessary condition of scientific advancement is that allowances must be made for (1) genuinely new empirical observations and (2) new explanation schemes, including new basic concepts and new laws." He goes on to say that when an explanation scheme has been accepted within the province of the scientific establishment, it becomes respectable, and

Professor J. Allen Hynek

tends to resist the incursions of any new empirical observations unless such observations have been generated within an already accepted establishment explanation scheme. Dr. Hynek remarks that for this reason there was initial opposition to the now accepted theories of meteorites, fossils, the circulation of the blood, bacteria, and—today—ball lightning.

The attitude of official science to meteorites in the 18th century is a perfect example of Goudge's thesis; for in 1772 even the famous chemist Lavoisier joined other members of the Paris Académie des Sciences—the French equivalent of the Royal Society—in issuing an official memorandum stating that "the falling of

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* The Henry Regnery Co. of 114 West Illinois Street, Chicago, Illinois 60610, U.S.A.
Abelard-Schuman Ltd., 158 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1, England.

stones from the sky is physically impossible," and that meteorites were earth-bound rocks which had been struck by lightning. It should be remembered that these men were no less *intelligent* than the scientists of today; they merely shared the same kind of prejudices, and were keeping safely within their contemporary explanation schemes.

The chief difference between the 18th century and our own day is that the prejudices have now generally settled on the great majority of second, and lesser, echelon scientists; the great men generally quietly accept the reality of those phenomena so hotly denied by their lowlier colleagues.

But occasionally the top men are also seized by the strange neurotic virus of prejudice, and even Lord Kelvin—one of Britain's greatest men of science—was guilty of incomprehensible stupidity on more than one occasion, failings which his biographers find it easy to omit. At the time when the aeroplane was clearly to be seen approaching realisation; in the year Lilienthal was killed gliding; and a bare eight years before the Wright brothers flew, Kelvin wrote as follows in 1896: ". . . I have not the smallest molecule of faith in aerial navigation other than ballooning." (Letter in the R.Ae.S. archives.)

Before discussing neurosis among scientists, here is Dr. Hynek's gloomy picture of today's attitude of the scientific establishment toward UFOs:

> "The almost universal attitude of scientists has been militantly negative. Indeed, it would seem that the reaction has been grossly out of proportion to the stimulus. The emotionally loaded, highly exaggerated reaction that has generally been exhibited by scientists to any mention of UFOs might be of considerable interest to psychologists. Such reaction has been interesting to observe. I have attended many gatherings of scientists, both formal and informal, at which the subject of UFOs has been brought up incidentally, either by chance or sometimes 'innocently' by me in order to observe the reaction. I have found it amusing thus to set a cat among the pigeons, for the reaction has been out of keeping with the traditional 'weigh and consider' stance of mature scientists. Frequently the reaction has been akin to that of a group of pre-teenagers watching a movie scene of exceptional tenderness or pathos quite beyond their years to appreciate: giggles and squirming suggest a defense against something the scientists cannot yet understand. It has seemed to me that such exhibitions by mature scientists are more than expressions of pity for the uninformed. Perhaps they are expressions of deep-seated uncertainty or fear . . . Scientists of good standing have toured the country declaiming against the UFO phenomenon, refusing to answer questions from the floor while proudly pointing out that they haven't taken the trouble to examine 'all the rubbish'. The phenomenon of this modern witch-hunt, the antithesis of what the scientific attitude stands for, is itself a phenomenon worthy of study. If 'all this UFO business is nonsense', why the overreaction on the part of established and highly respectable scientists? Is it a subconscious reaction to a challenge they are not prepared to accept?"

In his book, Dr. Hynek does refer to what he calls the "Invisible College," that small band of highly qualified men and women the world over, who are aware of the UFO facts, and want to pursue the study of them. But at the moment they are lying low, and are only known to a few outsiders.

In passing, it is interesting to see what Arthur Koestler writes about Extra-Sensory-Perception (ESP), which has passed through many of the same vicissitudes as the study of UFOs: "The majority of academic psychologists remained hostile, although the giants had always taken telepathy and allied phenomena for granted."

In face of the vast accumulation of UFO material—a recent bibliography ran to 400 pages—why is it that the majority of scientists are so hostile; hostile, as Dr. Hynek shows, to (and far beyond) the point of becoming neurotic about the subject? One surely expects scientists to be perpetually inquisitive and restless in pursuit of extending the frontiers of science, of probing forward into the unknown. One also expects them to listen to the evidence; weigh it; and then—if they are not certain—to suspend judgment; not to ridicule any subject, but continue searching for the truth. Many of the scientists and intelligent laymen one meets behave like clowns when the subject of UFOs is brought up; and they are invariably ignorant of the relevant documents. They behave just like the theologians did in face of Galileo's assertion about the earth orbiting the sun. The attitude and behaviour of the average scientist can only be classed as neurotic.

Of the make-up of such men, there is clearly in many of them a deep and unconscious sense of insecurity or inadequacy, derived from infantile and childish conflicts; they feel uncomfortable and unsafe in the presence of any manifestation which cannot be examined in a laboratory. An insecure or inadequate man is generally a neurotic one, and the roots of his trouble are often sexual. There is also the crippling sin of arrogance, and the lack of true humility, which is basically related to insecurity and inadequacy, and ensures a second-rate type of man, and a second-rate scientist.

Many scientists have also suffered from a restricted home environment; they have been reared among intellectually and spiritually deprived families. This, of course, is not their fault, and they tend to grow up—and even attain high positions in their speciality—with an essentially "provincial" type of mind that has never had an opportunity of mixing with varied and mature men and women until it is too late for them to change. This in turn leads to them failing to react productively to alien ideas and concepts when they travel at home and abroad, and meet their fellow-workers.

But outstanding in the general neurotic pattern is the scientist's fear of ridicule by his colleagues if he is known to be interested in such a subject as UFOs: an interest in ESP, on the other hand, is now slowly creeping into the area of respectability, and ridicule is lessening. Sometimes it is even a question of a job being in danger—or a job being inaccessible—if a young scientist is thought to have "cranky" interests. But there is no excuse for the senior man who has already arrived; but all too many of them bear such deep scars of their childhood conflicts that the resulting insecurity and inadequacy carries right through their lives in the form of a severe state of moral cowardice.

Fear of the unknown and the inexplicable—the very spheres in which one would expect every leading scientist to involve himself—is also deep-seated in many

men; but these neurotic fears are probably dependent for their nourishment on one or more of the items already noted. But fear of the unknown and the inexplicable should not be tolerated by any scientific institution.

Finally, we have to thank Dr. Hynek for putting both of the two official U.S. UFO undertakings in perspective, and he is in a uniquely privileged position to do this. Project Blue Book was the special "office" of the U.S. Air Force, maintained to deal with UFO reports, to which Dr. Hynek was Scientific Consultant for its two decades of life; and the Condon Report, which the U.S. Air Force handsomely paid the University of Colorado to produce, is now the main excuse for official inactivity in American UFO research. Dr. Hynek's inside story of Blue Book shows that it was a thinly disguised fraud, set up to protect the Air Force's unspoken conviction that the subject of UFOs was a nonsense subject, and even utilising faked statistics to support this thesis. Blue Book was a shabby and disgraceful business.

When it comes to the Condon Report, which I have strongly criticised in the past, Dr. Hynek is far more severe—and is qualified to be far more severe—than I was. Apart from quoting two new and most damning documents in the form of Mary Armstrong's letter of resignation as Dr. Condon's administrative assistant, and W. T. Powers' critique which was so stern that the journal *Science* refused to publish it, Dr. Hynek delivers —with massive supporting evidence—the following quiet coup-de-grace: ". . . that (a) the subject matter for study by the Condon group was incorrectly defined, and (b) the Committee studied the wrong problem."

To close, here is the great philosopher William James, writing in 1895 of his own university of Harvard: his words are as true today as when they were first uttered:

"There is included in human nature an ingrained naturalism and materialism of mind which can only admit facts that are actually tangible. Of this sort of mind the entity called 'Science' is the idol. Fondness for the word 'scientist' is one of the notes by which you may know its votaries; and its short way of killing any opinion that it disbelieves in is to call it 'unscientific'. It must be granted that there is no slight excuse for this. Science has made such glorious leaps in the last 300 years . . . that it is no wonder if the worshippers of Science lose their heads. In this very University, accordingly, I have heard more than one teacher say that all the fundamental conceptions of truth have already been found by Science, and that the future has only the details of the picture to fill in. But the slightest reflection on the real conditions will suffice to show how barbaric such notions are. They show such a lack of scientific imagination that it is hard to see how one who is actively advancing any part of Science can make a statement so crude. Think how many absolutely new scientific conceptions have arisen in our generation, how many new problems have been formulated that were never thought of before, and then cast an eye upon the brevity of Science's career. Is this credible that such a mushroom knowledge, such a growth overnight as this, *can* represent more than the minutest glimpse of what the universe will really prove to be when adequately understood? No! Our Science is but a drop, our ignorance a sea. Whatever else be certain, this at least is certain: that the world of our present natural knowledge *is* enveloped in a larger world of some sort, of whose residual properties we at present can frame no positive idea."

C.H.G-S.,
September,
1972.

THE HEALING OF WOUNDS BY ELECTROMAGNETIC RADIATION

Gordon Creighton

WE are indebted to Mr. W. Hoville and Mr. J. Hoville, of NICAP-APRO Subcommittee, Dollard des Ormeaux, Province of Quebec, Canada, for photostats of two extremely interesting press reports which appear below.

In an earlier article,[1] I attempted to discuss the evidence that in certain cases people appear to have received some sort of instantaneous healing through the agency of UFOs, and I gave in outline seven episodes which seemed to be corroborative of this thesis. The press items from Canada may be thought to indicate that confirmation of the idea of healing through UFOs is making its appearance, and that we shall now have a scientific rationale for such phenomena.

1. From *The Toronto Star*, Tuesday, September 5, 1972, in a report from Kingston:

CANADIANS FIND FAST HEALING OF WOUNDS

"Two Canadian scientists have found a way to heal wounds on laboratory animals up to 100 times faster than the weeks of treatment now required, a third member of the team said yesterday.

"Susan Halter, a Queen's University medical student who assisted in the prjoect, said in an interview that the technique has been tried only on rats. Further research is needed before tests can be made on people.

"Dr. Alan Tanner, head of the control systems laboratory of the National Research Council, was to present the findings today in Varna, Bulgaria, where he and his colleague, Queen's anatomy professor Dr. Cesar Romero-Sierra, are attending the International Symposium on Electrosleep and Electroanaesthesia.

SKIPS STEPS

"Miss Halter said the technique was developed while Tanner and Romero-Sierra were seeking ways to keep birds from colliding with airplanes.

"She said it employs electromagnetic radiation to speed the healing of open wounds 'by enabling' the healing procedure to skip some of the steps normally required in the basic physiological mechanics.

" 'We are able to reach the final wound-healing stages much more rapidly than normal.'

"However, before it can be used on people, it must be continued on animals, to ensure that no adverse radiation effects occur, Miss Halter said.

"In seeking ways to keep birds from fouling jet intakes and crashing into airplane windshields, the team discovered that birds become disoriented when they intercept radar beams. They began treating them with electromagnetic radiation.

HOSPITAL TIME

"Miss Halter said the scientists found that applying the electromagnetic field speeds up the generation of collagen, a fibrous protein. This helps wounds to knit.

"Miss Halter said the healing discovery 'would affect the amount of time people have to spend in hospital for treatment of open and perhaps internal wounds by a large extent. Obviously this would have pronounced effects on the amount of manpower and money a hospital would need to treat its patients.'

"The process also calls for an injection of histamine, a natural substance that dilates the capillaries and increases circulation to the site of the wound."

2. From *The Sault Daily Star* of Tuesday, September 5, 1972, a CP account from Toronto:

PROCESS IN HEALING CLAIMED DEVELOPED

"A process that reduces the healing time of open wounds on experimental animals to hours from days has been developed by three Canadian scientists.

"The process employs electromagnetic radiation and speeds healing by a factor of 100 to 1. Dr. Alan Tanner, head of the control systems laboratory at the National Research Council, says the process can be used to 'seal lesions in a very short time; in our test animals, we've done this in minutes.'

"Dr. Tanner was to present the group's findings for the first time today at the International Symposium on Electrosleep and Electroanaesthesia in Varna, Bulgaria.

"Dr. Tanner says the method has been tried only on rats at this point, and although no adverse effects from the radiation have been found, the group wants to test the technique more intensively with animals.

"Dr. Tanner says the technique involves the application of an electro-magnetic field in the radio frequency range, which has wave lengths longer than those of visible light. It also involves the application of histamine, a natural substance which dilates the capillaries and increases circulation to the area of the wound.

SPEEDS PROCESS

"He says that applying the electromagnetic field speeds up the generation of collagen, a fibrous protein which helps knit wounds together.

" 'That's all very well, but you're relying on the natural supply of histamine and this is not truly adequate if you're going to accelerate the process.

" 'If you accelerate the generation of collagen, you also need to provide more material at the site for the body to work on. This is why we add histamine. With this greater supply of histamine, plus the electromagnetic field, you can accelerate the sealing and healing process by at least 100 times.'

"Dr. Tanner thinks the process will one day revolutionise the economics of hospital care, 'because the turnover of patients can be accelerated.'

" 'If we can do this, then we can really make inroads into the escalating problems of hospitals.

" 'As far as convenience to society is concerned, we're going to gain many more man-hours of work. For instance, the principle can be applied to healing broken limbs. Now you've got to go through the indignity of having a massive cast on for a long period of time. This can be reduced to days, maybe hours eventually.' "

So now we know what it probably was that lay behind the remarkably rapid healing of the finger of Patrol Deputy Robert Goode, the Texan policeman dealt with in Case No. 5 of my article of two years ago about the mysterious healings from UFOs.

On the other hand, all that we have learnt so far about the UFO problem seems to indicate that more than one type of entity is involved in these matters, and that we would be unwise indeed to assume that all entities have the same motives. There are on file cases so horrible that FSR has hesitated, so far, to print them.

Among the known cases which would appear to point to a harmful agency—*possibly* magnetism, but also possibly *sound*—coming from UFOs, I will mention here only two. The first is the mysterious affair at Warminster where—so it has been claimed—after the passage overhead of a thunderous roof-rattling type of UFO, a considerable number of dead mice were allegedly found in a garden, their bodies riddled with strange small holes. The second, also at Warminster, is the case in which, so the claim has been made, just as a UFO passed overhead a flight of pigeons[2] suffered some kind of effect and fell to the ground dead, rigor mortis setting in almost instantly.

It is not surprising that the Canadian doctors are not yet planning to apply their remarkable discovery to humans. Obviously far more research will be needed before one can know what is safe and what is not.

We do not of course know for sure what it was that killed the mice and pigeons, if these Warminster reports are correct, but it so happens that some laboratory experiments were carried out on mice and rats in France a few years ago, in which these animals were exposed to the precise conditions which the Canadian doctors have been exploring, namely magnetic fields. Monsieur René Fouéré, the Secretary-General of our friends at GEPA, published an article on the subject in *Phénomènes Spatiaux* No. 6 of December 1965.

Notes

1 *Healing from UFOs*, in FSR for September/October 1969.

2 See *The Warminster Phenomenon*, in FSR for July/August 1965, which mentions the case of the pigeons. It should be emphasised however that in that article *sound waves* were considered as possibly responsible for killing the birds,

continued on page 27

LANDING ON THE LEUSDERHEIDE

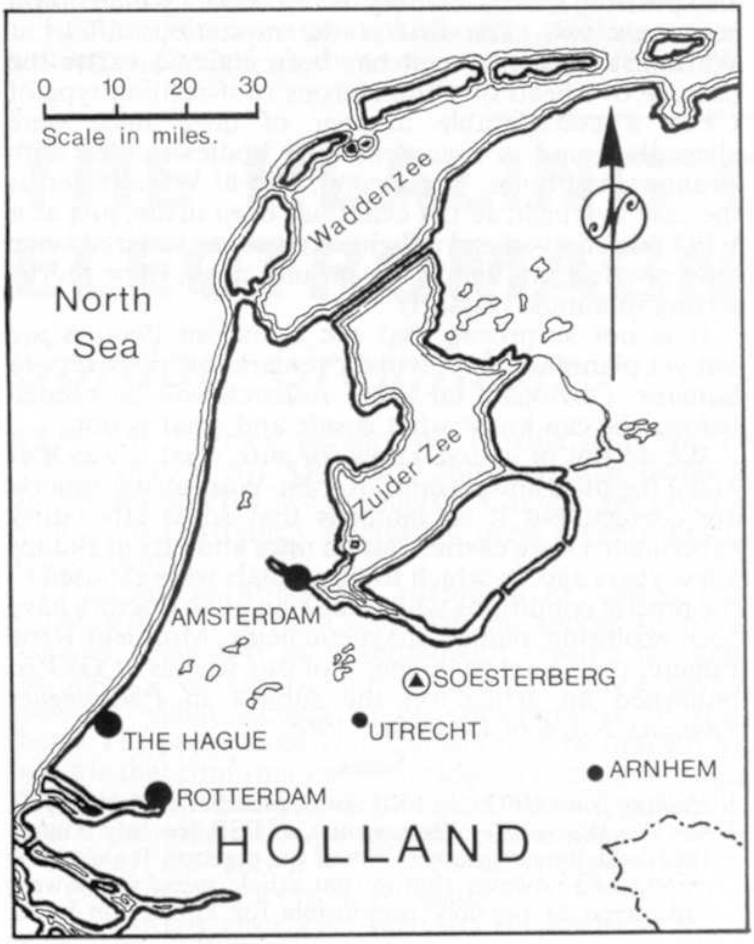
G. S. Wiersema

THIS is the story of a landing which is stated to have taken place on the Leusderheide, near Soesterberg, on Saturday, March 25, 1972. The Leusderheide is a wide moorland to the east of Utrecht in Holland.

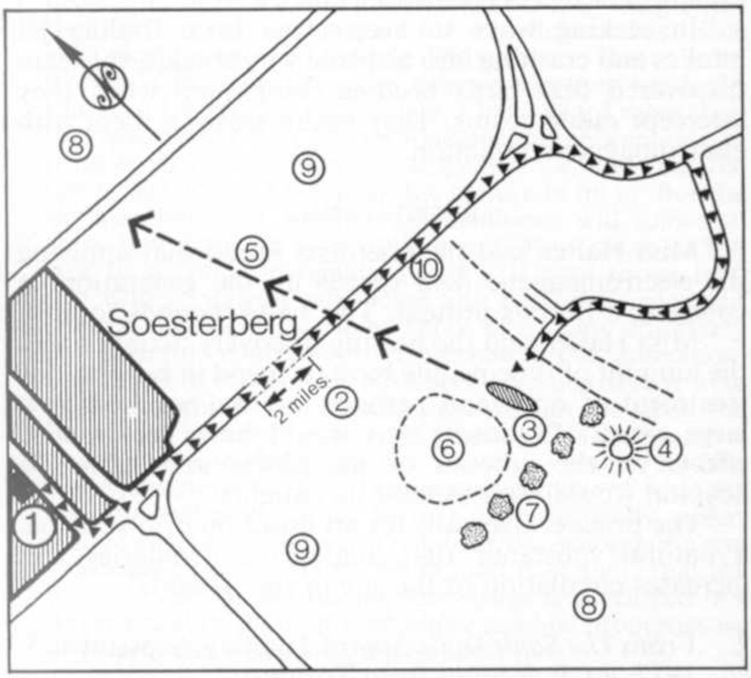
I had first heard about this landing and occupant case through the newspapers, some of them actually featuring it as front page news. It was not until several months had passed that I learned that the case had been thoroughly investigated by NUSC, the Nederlands Ufologisch Studie Centrum (Dutch Ufological Study Centre) of The Hague. Their report was published in *Ufologisch Informatief Tijdschrift* (Ufological Information Magazine)* for May-June 1972. I have obtained written permission for their report to be published in *Flying Saucer Review*.

The witness seems to be an important businessman who wishes to remain anonymous, but I understand that his full name and address are on file with the NUSC. We will call him Mr. B.

The NUSC first learned some brief details from Mrs. v.d.V., the niece of Mr. B. She said that her uncle had told her a very strange story, that he was very confused and had told only a few relatives about it, for he was afraid he would appear foolish. Mrs. v.d.V. urged NUSC to get in touch with her uncle, so he was contacted by telephone. He agreed to tell them his story—which he did on the telephone—and as this sounded credible, representatives of NUSC then visited him. Mr. B. was asked to repeat his story at different times, and the versions all matched. Attempts to catch him out with incorrectly-worded questions also failed.



Geographical location of Soesterberg, Holland



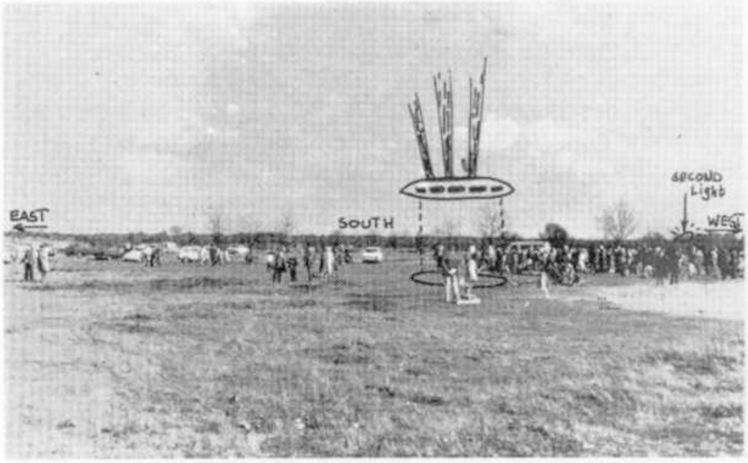
Location of UFO Landing, near Soesterberg:
(Not to scale)

Map References: 5° 17′ 90″ East Longitude
52° 08′ 75″ North Latitute

Key:–
- **1 : Mr. B's house.**
- **2 : The Leusderheide.**
- **3 : The UFO landing site.**
- **4 : The light phenomenon.**
- **5 : Departure flight path of the UFO**
- **6 : Parachute dropping area.**
- **7 : Row of five trees.**
- **8 : Military training areas.**
- **9 : Wooded country.**
- **10 : Route taken by Mr. B.**

Here is my translation of the published report:

"On Saturday, March 25 this year, I awoke at about half past three in the morning due to a loud humming sound. At first I thought that my Hi-Fi stereo installation was still switched on and had not been switched off in the evening. But in that case I should have noticed it earlier. However, the installation was switched off and I could not figure out where the sound came from or by whom or what it was caused. I looked round the room once more, but I could not detect anything strange. Suddenly I noticed that light beams



Impression of Landing-area with UFO
Inked-in marks and sketches in all photograghs added by investigators

were coming through the Venetian blinds which were down.

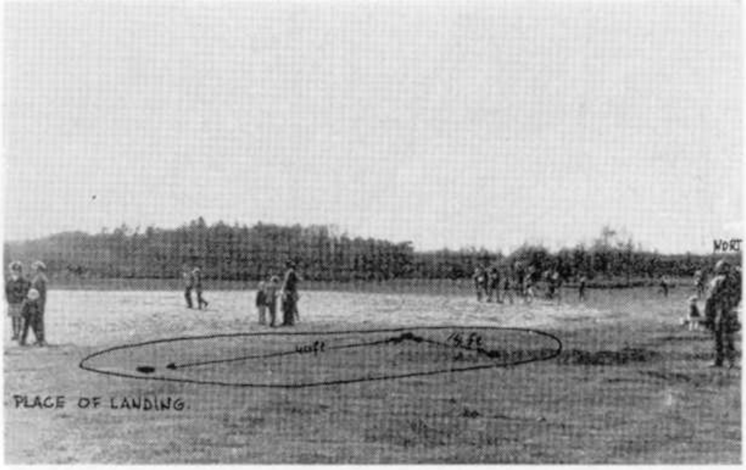
"My curiosity was roused and I walked to the window to peep outside on the street. I saw a blinding white light, as if someone in front of the house had lit a Bengal light. I also saw a sort of 'fog' in the vicinity of that light. This 'fog' stood like a 'fence' on the pavement and was approximately 4 metres long and 2 metres high. Parked behind it stood my car, a V.W. 1300. I did not understand what it meant, but my first impression was that my car was on fire. I hastily put on a pair of slippers, grabbed my car keys, put on a jacket and ran out of the front door—without, as it turned out later, shutting it.

"I jumped into my car, while noticing that it was not covered any more with a layer of ice due to night frost, but that it was wet with melting water, in contrast to the other parked cars. So presumably there must have been a source of heat somewhere around. Was it the light or the 'fog'? I did not wonder about this until later. At any rate, it was strange and frightening. When I had started the engine, the strange 'fog' crept, as it were, round the car; at the same time I felt the back of the car bouncing, as if 'someone' had jumped onto it.

"In my rear mirror I saw the light (or fire) phenomenon at the back of my car and I thought that my car was on fire! I panicked and accelerated; I drove out of the street without actually realising where to.

" 'I have to drive,' I thought, 'perhaps that way the flames will be extinguished.' At the end of the street I turned to the left and after first going through a dry ditch and closely passing a few trees, I then came onto an asphalted road. Panic seized me, I was terrified. I tried to alert other people's attention, if they were any around at all but my horn did not work. It seemed as if I was forced to drive. I did not meet anyone, nor, I think, did anyone see me. I guessed that if I were to stop I might be killed. My memory played me tricks.

"After driving for a while I came on a road across which a chain had been stretched. With still 4 or 5 metres to go, it tautened inexplicably and then broke just as inexplicably. I stopped. I then realised that I had driven some 7 minutes (about 4 kilometres, as it turned out later) through the dark with my lights on and that I found myself somewhere on the 'Leusderheide.'



Landing area of UFO. The three marks in the picture looked like "holes"

Flight direction of UFO. (Investigator left; observer Mr. "B" right)

Normally no people come here. Later it appeared that I had entered a military range.

"After I had wiped the sweat from my face and looked out of the window, I saw a human-like figure run past me. It had come somewhere from behind the car and seemed to be on its way to a certain point right in front of me. Suddenly it vanished. I got out and now distinctly saw an enormous object in front of me around which was a greenish glow. To the left of me I saw an oval-shaped bright light which was moving among some trees towards the object in front of me. Could it be the same light that had been at the back of and around my car at the time I left home and until I arrived here?

"In amazement I watched this scene a bit closer and noticed that I was at a distance of some 10 or 15 metres from the object which, seen from my point of view, was lens-shaped.

"It had some sort of windows from which issued the greenish light. It was a peculiar diffuse glow. I also noticed that the object had a metallic appearance, like aluminium. I did not see any welds or rivets. The windows formed an integral part of the surface, i.e. there were no window frames or the like. On top of the object were three thick green beams of fluorescent-like light, like those of searchlights, shining upwards into

Flight-direction of UFO

the sky. In my opinion the light which came from the left seemed to be 'controlled,' for at the end, behind one of the windows, I saw a strange human-like being who was looking at the greenish light phenomenon and who seemed to perform certain actions.

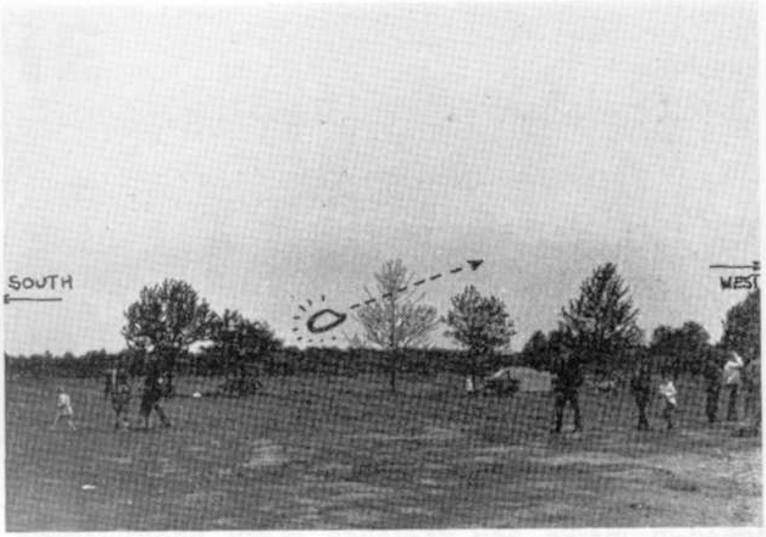
"When the oval-shaped light had come near the object it crept, as it were, upwards along the side of the object. As soon as it had reached the 'roof' there appeared there another green beam, also shining upwards.

"My curiosity got the better of my amazement. At first I thought: 'Why, the Army or Air Force is busy with something.' That's why I walked a bit closer to the object which was about 30 or 40 metres long and some 4 metres high. At least that is the impression I got. It stood flat on the ground. It might well be that the human-like being that had run past me previously had crept into this object through some hatch, because it had suddenly disappeared just above the ground in the direction of the object.

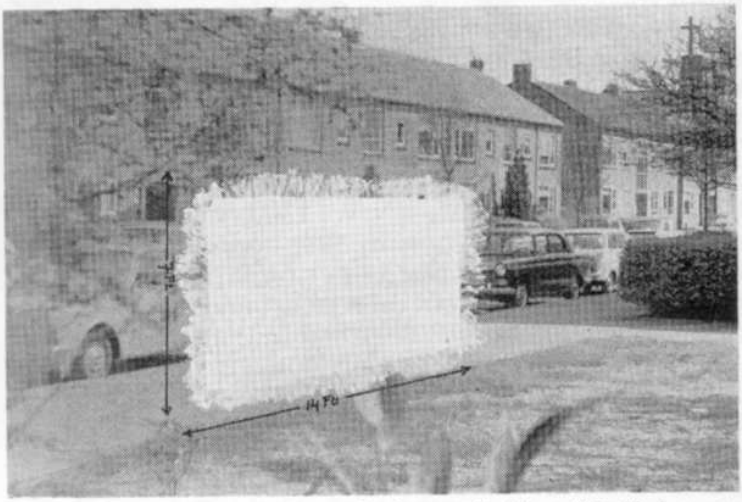
"When I came closer there appeared right in front of me, behind the window, a human-like being that was watching me. It made a gesture with its right hand which seemed to indicate: 'Back, back.' At the time I was at a distance of some 3 or 4 metres from the object and I looked into it. The being, which I could see and describe very clearly, seemed to be counting with the fingers of its left hand: 'three . . . four . . .'

"The being, or creature, looked like this: its height was between 5ft. and 5ft. 4in.†; it was dressed in a sort of tight-fitting overalls of a peculiar material with a dull metallic glow. This clothing had no seams and it fitted tightly round the wrists. Round its waist it was wearing what seemed to be a belt at the right side of which emerged some sort of tube which, running upwards behind its back, was attached at the side of its head to a stand-up collar. Its head was oval-shaped with slightly disproportionate almond-shaped eyes which seemed to light up constantly, but this effect may have been due to the strange diffuse light surrounding the object. The eyes seemed to look right through you. It seemed as if the creature was smiling, because its upper lip was curled up.

"Behind this creature I noticed some sort of instrument panel, on, or in which, colour changes were constantly visible. The creature turned its head and looked



Tree in the middle of the picture did not grow leaves. (This picture was taken 2½ months after the others)



Photograph from the window of Mr. "Bs" house showing place where the strange light appeared

at it; apparently everything seemed all right. At that moment I noticed some more human-like beings behind the other 'windows'. They were separated from each other by a transparent 'wall' through which they also seemed to communicate. When the creature had counted 'three . . . four . . .' with its left hand fingers, as I remarked before, and had at the same time made this 'back, back,' gesture, the enormous object suddenly 'jumped' from the ground with a jerking movement and remained hanging at the same place for a moment; then it 'floated' some ten metres to the right after which it seemed to be 'hurled away' without raising dust. It disappeared with a sound which might best be compared with that of a tile sliding from a sloping roof. When the object appeared reduced to the size of a dinner plate, the green beams disappeared. It was now only visible as a grey spot with a bluish-white glow in the centre. I also noticed two smoke trails with a green light fading in between them. Of course I do not know

† The metric measurements were not quoted in this translation—EDITOR.

if it was smoke, but that is what it seemed like to me.

"The object disappeared over what appeared to be a small house vaguely outlined against the horizon. I suddenly felt very cold, which had not been the case during the experience. I got into my car which had the headlights still on and drove home as best I could. Back home, my wife who was very anxious, asked me where I had been and why I had left the front door open. The family had awoken at the time I left with the car. I sat down and asked one of my children to go out and feel if the engine of the car was warm. Indeed it was, and the car was completely dry, whereas all the other parked cars in the street were covered with a thin layer of white frost. I was back home again at a quarter past four in the morning. I had been away 45 minutes.

"Later that day my children went to see if there were any traces which the object must needs have left behind. The chain which had been stretched across the road was broken. There was also an area of flattened grass and imprints from my car tyres. So I must have actually been there and possibly I have seen something real, only I don't know what.

"I don't have television and I have never read anything about the things you call UFOs, nor do I believe in them. Yet I must confess to myself that I have seen something very strange which upset me for two days afterwards.

"Perhaps you will be able to investigate everything and find a solution for this phenomenon. Please do not give my name to the press, because I wouldn't like that. Moreover, it would have an unfavourable effect on my position at the office if it were to turn out that I was the one that had seen all this."

* * * * *

This is a lengthy report, and it is not yet finished. A second part, dealing with on-the-spot investigations has not, at the time of writing, appeared in the *Ufologisch Informatief Tijdschrift*. As soon as it does I will make a translation for FSR readers.

Monsieur M. Rossi, *who lives in New York, has sent us the following item from the* New York Post *of October* 25, 1972—

Speeding Galaxy Breaking Law?

"PASADENA, Cal. (AP)—A galaxy that appears to be breaking a law of science—that no object can go faster than the speed of light—has been reported at a meeting of astronomers here.

"The galaxy has reportedly joined with two quasars—mysterious objects on the rim of the universe that emit enormous amounts of radio waves—in seeming to move faster than 186,000 miles a second, long accepted by physicists as the ultimate in speed.

"The report of the speeding galaxy came at a meeting of the high energy astrophysics division of the American Astronomical Society in a paper written by Dr. Kenneth I. Kellerman of the National Radio Astronomy Observatory at Green Bank, W. Va."

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SOUTH AFRICAN MINI-WAVE, 1972—Part 2

Charles Bowen

WITHIN a day or two of the remarkable UFO-shooting affair at Fort Beaufort,[1] the South African press was enjoying a "field-day" of reporting, investigating and commenting upon *the* UFO—and a few others besides—sometimes seriously, often in satirical vein. And when the mini-wave really got under way, well . . . never before had they known anything quite like it for arousing excitement and provoking speculation. On the face of it there is little doubt that the furore generated some of the reports, for many seemed to be familiar misidentifications of mundane things and natural objects.

However, quite apart from the Fort Beaufort "classic" there were a number of interesting and valuable reports. One of the most intriguing was that of the skipper of a South African Airways Boeing 727, who reported—and described—a UFO that was "pacing" his air liner (see Part I of this article). There was also the interesting Umkomaas photograph.[2]

As the flap progressed, newspapers in the various provinces vied with one another to record reports of *their* local UFO, and some searched around for older incidents.

"Die Lig"

One of these accounts appeared in *The Argus* (Cape Town evening paper) of July 1, 1972.

It seems that in the area around Mariental and Keetmanshoop there is a phenomenon known as "Die Lig" (The Light). This is a "mystery that happens every year when, by night or in broad daylight, an orange light as bright as that of the argon arc of a welder's torch, blazes with a near-blinding intensity."

Nobody has managed, as yet, to approach near enough to "Die Lig" to study it at close quarters. And why? Because—and note this—"it hovers, or it moves, never more than a few metres above the ground. Every farmer or townsman who has chased it by car has failed to get close to it because **as soon as the car closes to within a certain range, the car's engine cuts out and the vehicle stops while the light carries on."** (My emphasis—C.B.)

Weathermen have agreed that it is not a weather or a meteorological phenomenon, for it has been seen by too many people in too many, and varied, circumstances. Here, it seems, is an opportunity for researchers in the Cape to make an in-depth investigation.

Newspaper editorial articles

The topic of UFOs and their treatment at the hands of South African farmers, policemen, officials and scientists, has been the subject of much editorial comment, mostly tongue-in-cheek, but some of it serious. Note the *Daily Dispatch* (East London) of Friday, July 7, 1972, in which are discussed the ultra-sceptical remarks of Professor Bleksley,[1] ". . . one of South Africa's most noted scientists, but scientists often have one weakness—they are blinded by science."

When told about the farm Braeside UFO-shoot-up, the professor had asked: "Why Fort Beaufort?" The implication being that there are better places for information about the world than Fort Beaufort, a little dorp which he couldn't even find on the map.

Countered the *Daily Dispatch* leader-writer: "Why Johannesburg?" Or, indeed, why any of the professor's favoured "major centres" such as the Reef?

There are too many credible witnesses for UFO reports to be dismissed as figments of the imagination, argued the leader-writer, who continued: "Nobody knows where these things come from, but by all accounts they do not accord with what is within the range of the technology of our particular planet . . ."

Elsewhere in the article it was suggested that Fort Beaufort may have been "selected" in preference to Johannesburg ". . . because Fort Beaufort has a sensible system of roads along which cars actually move without obstruction. Maybe they prefer unpolluted air and an earth crust that is not honeycombed with mining tunnels."

The *Daily Dispatch* is confident that the folk in Fort Beaufort are level-headed, and are not the victims of mass-delusion. Some of them have ". . . seen something out of the ordinary, and it is silly to scoff at their experience, or dismiss it as unlikely because of the size of their town."

* * * * *

To continue now with the summary of those UFO reports made during the wave that have found their way to me. It should be noted that they are not in strict chronological order:

11. Vryburg (Northern Cape Province), July 5, 1972. Cattle farmer Jurie Wessels, 23, was driving relatives home from a drive-in cinema. It was about 10.15 p.m., and he was accompanied by his wife Helene, his sister Hannie (a University of Pretoria student) and other relatives, Edzard Verseput and Johan Pienaar. Hannie Wessels was being driven home first, to her mother's house which is some nine miles along the Malopo Road from Jurie Wessels' farm, Harmonie. Mrs. Helene Wessels described the incident: "It is an open road with no lights to distract us. Suddenly a huge flying ball appeared right in front of us. It seemed to be hovering about 7 metres from the ground and at first appeared

to be right over my mother-in-law's house. Jurie slowed the car as it seemed at one stage that we would bump right into it. As we watched, it turned from red to green. Then lots of sparks flew from the side. It turned yellow and in a flash was gone. I was terrified." (*Sunday Times*, July 9, 1972.)

12. Wellington (Cape Province), July 10, 1972. A visitor to the district, Mr. Ernst Koen, of Bloemhof, Western Transvaal, who knew nothing of the earlier Wellington sighting report (see Part I), was taking an early morning walk. At 7.30 a.m. he saw a shell-shaped object, with a few points on the sides and a long sharp point in front, travelling slowly from south to north over the mountain. There was no sound, and Mr. Koen estimated the object's altitude at about 6000 metres. Its light was extremely bright. After about 20 minutes it suddenly accelerated and disappeared at tremendous speed. (*The Argus* of July 10, 1972.)

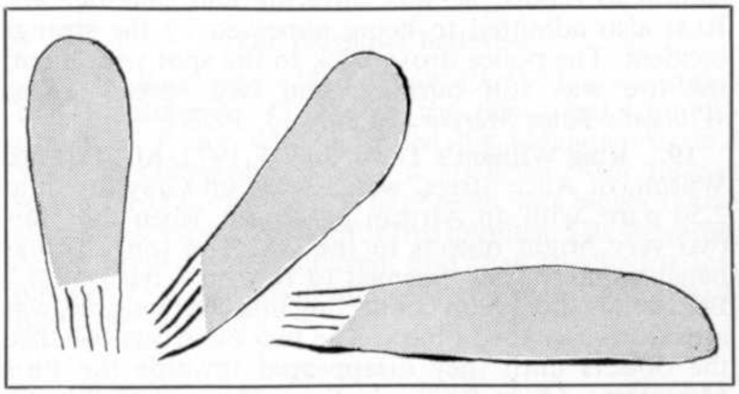
13. Welkom (Orange Free State), July 10, 1972. More than 25 Goldfields folk were witnesses of the passage of a "semi-circular" object which flashed red, green and yellow lights. Some of them watched it through binoculars as it moved away to the south. The air controller at Welkom Airport did not know of "any unusual aircraft flying in the area at that time" although, from the descriptions, it sounded rather like aircraft lights. (*The Friend*, Bloemfontein, of July 12, 1972.)

14. Between Grahamstown and Adelaide, July 10, 1972. Adelaide Technical High School mathematics master Mike Benade was driving home with his wife from Grahamstown. At a point some 50 kms. from Fort Beaufort he spotted a very large bright light to the south, and thought at first that it was someone hunting with a powerful spotlight. He stopped the car, and then became aware that it was not on the ground, but about 15° above the horizon, hovering, keeping almost still. The time was 8.30 p.m.

On July 4, the same Mr. Benade had been playing an early morning round of golf at Adelaide golf course. He was partnered by a Mr. Rademayer. Suddenly they came across a patch of scorched grass in the middle of the closely cropped ninth fairway. The patch measured 20 m. by 12 m. What puzzled golfers and officials was that although the grass was mid-winter brown and dry, it was so short that fire wouldn't spread through it. Attempts to burn a nearby patch of similar grass failed. Although there is a main road nearby, and some African houses, nobody saw a fire, and if somebody had wanted to get warm, it would have been far easier to have burnt the long grass in the rough beyond the fairway. Inevitably people started to think of UFOs: an ideal "landing ground" indeed. Police had been given samples of the soil and grass, but had not released any information by July 12. (*Rand Daily Mail*, July 12, 1972.)

15. Cyrildene, Johannesburg, July 11, 1972. Dr. Edward Blumberg of Glanville Road, Cyrildene, was driving home, at about 2.00 p.m., along Queen Street, Kensington. He was accompanied by his wife Rita and their three children, Lynette, Wendy and Richard. Said Dr. Blumberg: "Through the windscreen I saw a white object, very high up, hanging motionless. It was pure white and very clearly etched against the blue sky. There was no cloud. The object was shaped like a raindrop, with legs or tentacles trailing from the lower part. I could see the blue sky between the legs." The doctor said that had he been alone he wouldn't have mentioned what he had seen, but all his family saw it at the same time. They decided to get home and fetch binoculars. The object had stayed without moving for four or five minutes.

"Then, as we watched," said the doctor, "it very slowly tilted towards the east until it lay in a horizontal position. There was a blinding flash from 'the front' like a



magnesium flare. The object seemed to flatten as it moved off towards the east. It moved very fast, much faster than a jet, and it seemed to be higher than an aircraft usually flies. There was no vapour. Then, as it moved, it elongated itself into a clearly defined bar of white. We could still see the tentacles behind." When it went out of sight over the Cyrildene School and behind a koppie, the observers took to their car to circle the hill, but they finally lost sight of the object in smoke haze. (*Rand Daily Mail*, July 12, 1972.)

16. Pretoria, July 10, 1972. When driving home to Pretoria from Hartbeestpoort dam on the Monday night (no time given—C.B.) with a friend, Mr. J. W. Rademeyer, Mrs. J. P. Davenport saw a "huge green light hovering just outside the city." Mrs. Davenport said the object appeared the apparent size of a Rugby ball, and much too big to be an aeroplane. There was still enough daylight for the observers to see that the light did not come from a plane. After about 20 seconds the light—not unlike that of a glow-worm—suddenly disappeared. (*The Pretoria News*, July 13, 1972.)

17. Franschoek (Cape Province), July 13, 1972. A brilliant ball of light was seen by three people on the farm Champagne near Franschoek early on the morning of July 13. At 4.00 a.m., Mrs. R. E. Michelson went outside to check on the weather: "I saw this terrific light near Du Toit's Kloof. It was very low and looked like a brilliant ball. Just before 7.00 a.m. she telephoned her son—he lives on the same farm—and asked him to look at the object. Mr. S. Michelson said it was above the mountain peaks to the east. He and his wife photographed it—it was at least "three times the size of a normal star." It disappeared at about 8.30 a.m. (*The Pretoria News*, July 13, 1972.

18. King William's Town, July 5, 1972 (reported July 13). Mr. Tony Inch of Buffalo Road, and Mr. Joe

Rust were returning to King William's Town from Port Elizabeth at 1.50 on Wednesday morning ("last week" —which, I presume, signifies July 5—C.B.). At a point about 13 kms. from King William's Town they saw a fire in the grass a few hundred metres from the road. While watching the fire they suddenly became aware of a brilliant red object—shaped something like the cap worn by American sailors—which took off from the ground. Mr. Inch tried to chase after the object as it rose slowly over the road, but it accelerated, and disappeared in the direction of Stutterheim. Mr. Inch says he was really scared, and when they went to the Police station to report, he was shivering and shaking. Mr. Rust also admitted to being unnerved by the strange incident. The police drove back to the spot with them: the fire was still burning, and had spread. (*King William's Town Mercury* of July 13, 1972.)

19. King William's Town, July 5, 1972. Mr. Edward Wilson, of Alice Street, was driving up Grey Street at 2.50 p.m., with an African passenger, when they saw two very bright objects in the sky. The top one was banana-shaped and "seemed to rest on a flat object." Below this, though no connecting links were visible, was a triangular-shaped object. The two observers watched the objects until they disappeared towards the Pirie Mountains. (*King William's Town Mercury* of July 13, 1972.)

20. Florida (Johannesburg), July 16, 1972. Many people saw a UFO travelling from south to north across the Witwatersrand. A *Rand Daily Mail* photographer said it moved so quickly he could not get his camera out. Mr. Andre Falkenburg of Florida said it was about 50 times the size of an aircraft landing light, and he and three others watched it hover over Florida, lift vertically, and then shoot across to Krugersdorp where it descended and shot off towards Potchefstroom. Mr. D. K. Dewkes, of Alexandra Street, Florida, said he saw it at 6.40 p.m. It was lower than the Brixton Tower. He was of the opinion that the object was a balloon with burning rags suspended from it, sent aloft by a hoaxer. (*Rand Daily Mail* of July 17, 1972.)

21. Malmesbury (Cape Province), July 16, 1972. Ten people watched an object which changed colour and moved up and down in the sky at great speed to the south of the town. Mr. E. Vesamien, superintendent of Schoonspruit hospital, said they watched it for 15 minutes before it disappeared at about 8.45 p.m. (*Cape Times* of July 17, 1972.)

22. Odendaalsrus (O.F.S.), July 16, 1972. Police Constable J. P. Myburgh reported that a Mr. Slabbert, of Wesselbron, had called at the charge office and told him excitedly about a UFO. Together they went to the Wesselbron road about two miles out of town, and saw a flat, rotating disc, high up in the sky, giving off a bright yellow light. It was surrounded by blue, and looked like a large star. Suddenly it came straight down at the patrol van, and halted just above them. It rose up and down several times, then, after about 15 minutes, made off towards Welkom. The object was about one metre in diameter, and glowed red as it descended. The policeman alerted his colleagues at Welkom and they too saw the UFO.

The Divisional Commander of Police, Brigadier G. C. Bester, said: "There was definitely some object, but what it was I don't know. It was seen by six policemen, and my men are trustworthy. They are serious about it . . ." After being seen on the Wesselbron road, the object was observed at Theunissen, and later at Kroonstad. (*The Friend*, Bloemfontein, July 18, 1972.)

In another account of the same incident which was published in the leading Afrikaans newspaper, the conservative *Die Burger*, we learn additional details which are both important and revealing. First, the object was radiating yellow light, with blue *rings* around it. Secondly, once it plunged down to its position above the patrol van it stayed there for about 15 minutes: there is no mention of a subsequent rising and falling manoeuvre. Again, we learn that Constable Myburgh radioed for permission to open fire on the UFO, but such permission was refused. (Perhaps someone had taken note of the indignation and wave of protests about the use of firearms at Fort Beaufort!)

When details of the departing object were radioed to other stations, traffic inspectors in three different places saw the object at the same time: they were in radio communication with each other. Mr. H. F. Coetzee, senior traffic inspector at Kroonstad, saw it first as it was moving from Odendaalsrus towards Kroonstad, and it was he who alerted the others. He said it looked somewhat like a Zeppelin, and on the hull there were blotches of light which gave the appearanace of coming from "windows". At this stage it was greenish-blue, and was moving at a high speed towards Johannesburg. (*Die Burger* of July 17, 1972. Thanks to my friend Danie Kotze for his translation.)

23. Pietermaritzburg (Natal), July 20, 1972. Miss Thelma Odell was driving down Commercial Road at 11.00 a.m. when she saw a "pinky"-coloured object, circular, and with a star shape indented inside. Coming from the direction of Durban, it was the apparent size of a breakfast plate. Miss Odell saw it appear directly in front of her. It had a slight vapour trail of pure white, and appeared to "dangle" over the Voortrekker Cemetery before descending into the section south of Commercial Road. As it neared the ground it seemed to disintegrate. It was in view for a few seconds only. There was a second, independent witness who reported it as of a "robot red" (traffic light red?—C.B.) and passing over the Epol Research farm at Cleland. This witness said it descended near the centre of Pietermaritzburg. (*The Daily Representative*, Queenstown, of July 21, 1972.)

24. Pietermaritzburg, July 21, 1972. It was reported from Durban that among many people who saw a UFO in Natal on the night of July 21, were Professor Owen Williams and his wife. Dr. Williams, who is Professor of Geography at the University of Natal, watched the UFO through binoculars. He said it was conical in shape and had a constant red light underneath it. (*The Argus*, July 22, 1972.)

25. Pinelands (Cape Province), July 21, 1972. Mrs. Muriel Alexander, of 51 North Walk, Pinelands, was returning home at about 8.30 p.m. when she saw an object which appeared to her to be only a few metres above the ground . . . It was large, bright red in the centre, turning to orange and gold towards the outside.

Stopping at her house, Mrs. Alexander called her neighbours out, and they watched the object as it completed a large circle and shot off at high speed towards Paarl. There were other independent witnesses of the same incident. (*The Argus* of July 22, 1972.)

* * * * *

Some indication of the month-long enthusiasm in the South African press for UFO stories may be gathered from the full-page treatment accorded the subject in the *Sunday Times* of July 9, 1972. Page 5 of that issue carries (i) an undated story of a sighting by several people at a drive-in cinema near Johannesburg of a glowing object with three tails—a suspected satellite or rocket re-entry; (ii) an account of a feather-duster-like object seen over Johannesburg; (iii) a series of photographs of a "UFO" over the skyscrapers of Hillbrow—an object *not* seen by the *Sunday Times* photographer, and small wonder, for the images look just like a series of lens flares; (iv) the Vryburg account featured earlier in this article; (v) an interview with Elizabeth Klarer who warned that "Space ships are watching us"; (vi) an item by Peter Pollock (the Test Cricketer?) about the Port Elizabeth airport weather office men who directed their radar on the UFO seen over the town (see part I of this article) but failed to get an echo, and (vii) a small piece about Fort Beaufort's other claim to fame, the Beaufort Series of vertebrate fossils, named after the district, where the sediments are the world's greatest storehouse of fossil amphibia and reptilia.

Sample negative

On July 26, 1972, *The Pretoria News* was one of the newspapers which announced that the tests by the C.S.I.R. scientists on the Fort Beaufort soil samples[1] had proved "negative." It was stated that if a foreign object had come in contact with the soil, it had done so in such a way that its composition was not disturbed. The spokesman added that there was "nothing to indicate the presence of a rocket." Which is fogging the issue, for as far as I recall, none of the witnesses had suggested that what they saw bore any resemblance to, or acted like, a rocket.

The Brigadier believes!

In the *Rand Daily Mail* of July 19, 1972, it was stated that Brigadier G. C. Bester, the Divisional Commissioner of Police who defended his Odendaalrus and Welkom constables, is now a "believer," for he had seen a UFO for himself. What he saw was bigger than a star, and it stayed in view for five minutes. The Brigadier called his wife and children, and they watched it too, just before it moved off in an easterly direction towards Bethlehem (O.F.S.).

* * * * *

Notes

[1] See *A hot reception at Fort Beaufort* by Charles Bowen, in FSR CASE HISTORIES Supplement 11.

[2] See *A UFO photograph from Umkomaas* by Philipp J. Human in FSR Vol. 18, No. 5, September/October 1972.

THE 'FLYING SPECTRE' OF NATAL

Philipp J. Human

SPOOKY creatures reported without attendant craft may not fall strictly within the bounds of ufology, but I suggest that the apparition which bothered residents of both Mayville (Durban), and Roosboom, near Colenso, each in the Province of Natal, may be admitted in view of its unconventional method of departure. Again, the case should be considered because of the stubborn refusal of the parties involved to dismiss the incidents as fantasy or fraud. Furthermore, it follows close in the wake of a UFO wave.

One of the first witnesses was a Mrs. Thelma Hansen, and I am glad that my friend, Dr. Carl van Vlierden of Westville, Natal, a regular reader of the *Flying Saucer Review*, was able to visit her at Mayville. He wrote to me about the results of his interview, but more of his report later.

Details of the incidents were published in *The Natal Mercury* on August 22, 1972.

The Roosboom giant

Part of the *Mercury* report was the story of Mrs. Doris Muthwa, a young mother of five, who, accompanied by her daughter Joyce, aged 12, was drawing water from a river near her home at Roosboom, north-west of Colenso. The time was about 4.30 a.m. The newspaper account continues:

"Doris takes up the story: 'I looked up and there seemed to be a man in a white suit. I thought he was smoking a cigarette but then the smoke became like a big fire.

" 'There was a bright light shining from his chest which went pink and blue.'

"Doris's employer, Mrs. N. E. Harding of Colenso, continues: 'Doris said he was about 3·5 metres tall. She indicated his height to me against a tree. (That would make him about 11ft. 3in. to 11ft. 6in. tall.—P.J.H.)

" 'He must have been emitting some kind of electricity because she said it was just like when she touches the iron and her body goes all jerky.'

"The giant man then shot into the sky and disappeared. The two were so frightened that the mother cried out, while the daughter began to cry and bit her mother's hand in her terror. They ran away, falling over and spilling their water as they went.

" 'Doris is a bright, intelligent woman. I know she is telling the truth,' Mrs. Harding said."

The Mayville giant

The same newspaper account revealed that a similar spectre had put in an appearance at Mayville, Durban,

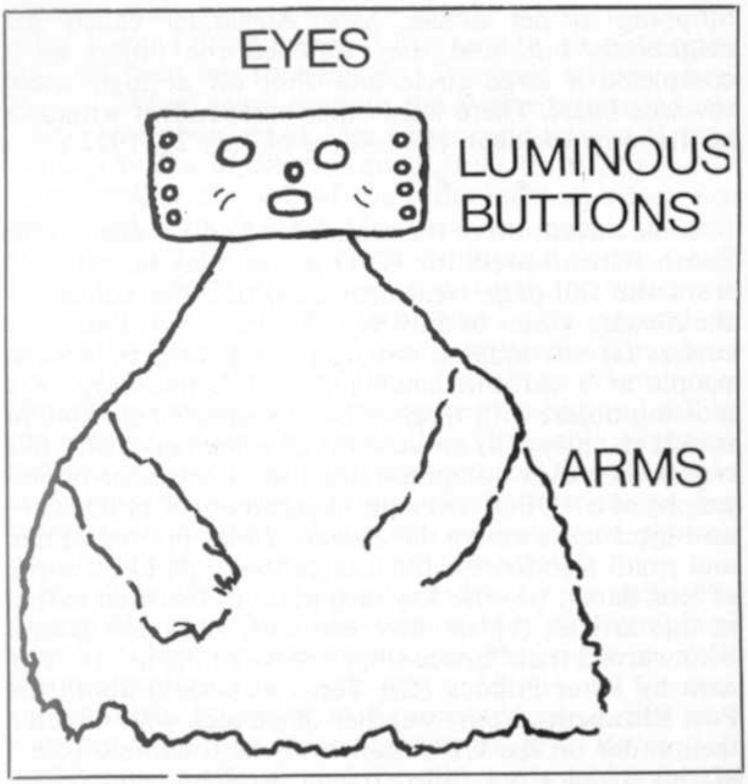
on the Saturday night (August 19, 1972), and on two other, earlier occasions. Most people, however, saw it on the Saturday on a piece of wasteground behind the house of Mrs. Thelma Hansen in Molver Road.

It was the sight of the creature's head that most disturbed Mrs. Hansen: "There was fire coming out of its eyes, and the head was square like a machine."

Miss Jane Claassen, who was accompanied by Mrs. Hansen's daughter Ingrid (aged 8), was the first to see it. She said: "It was staring at us by the fence. It was horrible. It was not a real person."

After the fuss had died down, Dr. Van Vlierden visited Mrs. Hansen and discussed the event with her; he also spoke to three other witnesses. The doctor reported that Mrs. Hansen was still disturbed by her experience. She and seven of the other witnesses have suffered after-effects, such as headaches and pains in the legs, apparently due to their encounter with the phenomenon. Mrs. Hansen also revealed that she felt "some sort of hypnotic effect," as if she was being drawn towards the object.

The spectre put in three separate appearances on the Saturday night (August 19). Dr. van Vlierden gave each of the witnesses a pencil and paper, and asked them to draw what they saw. The drawings were all very similar, basically of a science-fiction-like monster as shown in the illustration.



It was the eyes that had the greatest effect on the witnesses. The bottom of this thing was 7ft. above the ground, and when it departed it went straight up, then sideways, and disappeared.

Another Roosboom claim

The Natal Mercury carried a follow-up account of the Roosboom incident in its edition of August 23, 1972. In it we read that one Elias Khosa, who works at the Indian-owned trading store, states that he saw the monster on Wednesday, August 16, when he was walking home. The spectre faced him, but he could not see its head, although he noticed small flames burning around its feet. Elias says he invited the "visitor" home for a drink, but it turned and sped off through the veld at high speed, emitting flames and smoke.

Elias's employer, Mr. Suleman Sager, says he has lived there for 44 years, and has "never seen things like that."

The latest news about Mrs. Doris Muthwa was that she was still frightened, and refused to go to the stream. It seems that her daughter Joyce bit her hand when the white-suited monster began to give off whirling lights.

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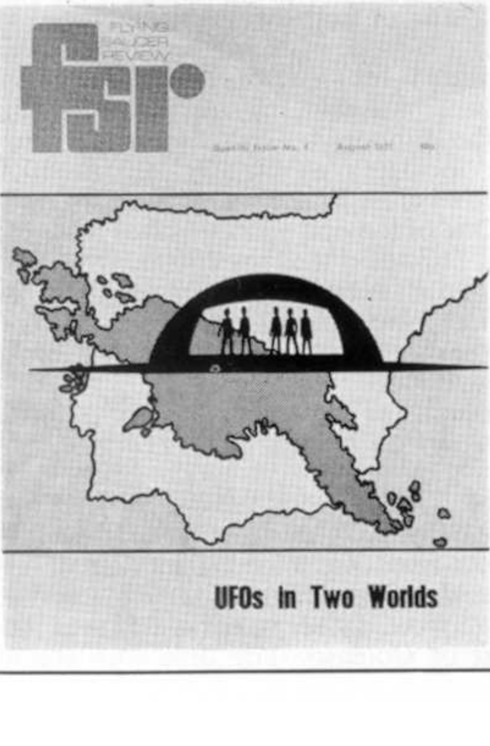

AFTER SNIPPY - WHAT NEXT?

Janet Bord

When a lengthy report on events in the San Luis Valley was received from researcher Stan Ferguson Mrs. Bord offered to make further enquiries on our behalf, and to summarise the more interesting of the accounts.

SNIPPY, the most famous horse in ufology, died in mysterious circumstances in September 1967, five years ago. The details are too well known to require retelling here, but for those who wish to remind themselves of this strange case, two articles, by Coral Lorenzen and Donald Merker, appeared in the May 1968 issue of *Fate* magazine. Apart from giving the full details of the events following Snippy's death, these articles are also interesting because they present opposing viewpoints on the theory that UFOs were somehow involved in the affair. Mrs. Lorenzen's article is captioned "Proponents of UFO murder theory claim Snippy fought valiantly when attacked by something from the sky"; Mr. Merker's caption reads, "Opponents insist nothing was in the sky but stars and blame mass media for enigma they trumped up."

Whatever may be the truth of the matter, and we'll probably never know, there's no smoke without fire, or, to twist the old saying in this case, there's no fire without smoke. UFOs were immediately blamed for Snippy's death because, according to local reports, there had been strange aerial activity in the area previously. Other cases are known where UFO occupants have shown interest in terrestrial livestock, so why not in Snippy's case too? If what has been reported of the death is accurate, there are certainly mysterious features which do not appear to be easily explained.

However, since Snippy's death there have been many more reports of peculiar happenings in the locality, some more forteanesque than *ufoid*. Are these strange events genuinely mysterious, or are they the "no fire without smoke" referred to above? That is, did Snippy's death and the subsequent ballyhoo about UFOs cause a widespread state of mind over-receptive to the slightest happening which might be interpreted as mysterious? I am not in a position to judge what is true or false in this case, but I will now quote several representative cases reported from the San Luis Valley area of Colorado, USA, where it all happened, so that the reader can decide for himself.

The quotations all come from a report compiled by Stan Ferguson, Tom Adams, Kye Kastrop and Gary Massey, who formed a research group into aerial and related phenomena at East Texas State University in 1970 and investigated the events in the San Luis Valley. The following events are not in any chronological order. The Mrs. Lewis frequently referred to was Snippy's owner, and she firmly believes that her horse was a UFO victim.

I

"Mrs. Lewis related to us the reports of a duck-billed platypus in and around Crater Lake, above Como Lake. Mrs. Lewis's father saw it on occasion. Others have reported it and Leonard Calkins of Fort Collins, Colorado, Mrs. Lewis's cousin, saw a platypus approximately 4 years ago and attempted repeatedly to capture a specimen, to no avail. Mr. Calkins and the Lewises submitted a report on the animal to the National Geographic Society, only to have the report rejected as invalid since there were 'no such things in existence' in that area."

II

"The Lewises mentioned that they, along with Harry King (Mrs. Lewis's brother, on whose ranch Snippy died—J.B.), had noticed that, on mornings after a fresh snowfall in the mountains, fresh rocks and debris could be seen strewn over the snow as though the product of some excavation. This has been noticed in the canyon immediately south of the area where the Lewis cabin is located.

"They reported that, at one time fairly recently and since the death of Snippy, they had been out driving in their truck when they observed a light which originated from what appeared to be a 'Quonset hut'-shaped object* near the base of Mt. Blanca. The object gave the impression of resting just above the ground. They began to observe the phenomenon closely and stopped their truck some distance away. They then noticed that 'something' began moving towards the truck. Mrs. Lewis described it as a dark, ambiguous shape; an estimation of its size would be '20ft. tall and 5ft. wide.' The Lewises could discern no definite shape. This occurred at 12.15 a.m., and at this point Mrs. Lewis became hysterical and highly agitated. She induced Mr. Lewis to drive away, towards Alamosa.

"The sighting had been made no more than 20 miles from Alamosa. After driving approximately 8 miles Mr. Lewis stopped, turned the truck round, and they observed a light originating from the location of the object. They resumed the drive back to Alamosa, arriving at home at 3.30 *a.m.* (After Mr. Lewis stopped the truck and turned round, they remained there for no more than 5-10 minutes.) During the drive back to Alamosa, Mr. Lewis had to stop several times, as Mrs.

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* A Quonset hut is the US equivalent of the Nissen hut.

Lewis seemed very ill and was subject to periodic vomiting. The Lewises have no explanation for the time discrepancy."

III

"Sixteen people had been at the Lewis cabin (located approximately 8,500ft. up in the Sangre de Christo range of mountains, 4 road miles from Harry King's ranch—J.B.) one night, including Dr. Leo Sprinkle, Mr. and Mrs. Don Richmond, and Mr. and Mrs. Berle Lewis, and others. Eight persons left in two cars to make field observations, and eight stayed in the Lewis cabin. The field party contacted the cabin party at the outset and then was unable to obtain a response from the cabin for a two-hour period. They returned to the cabin only to have someone in the cabin party comment that they had been in contact with the radio of the field party only a matter of five or so minutes before. A check of watches disclosed that the cabin party was unable to account for their experiences during the two-hour period.

"Mr. and Mrs. Lewis at one time had an extended stay in northern Colorado and were returning home to Alamosa, although they were both extremely tired. They left Walsenburg and began the approach up the eastern slope of the La Veta Pass. Suddenly, and much to their amazement, they found themselves driving down the western slope of the pass. They could not recall having actually driven over the pass. They reached Alamosa, checked their watches, and noted that, to have made the trip from Walsenburg to Alamosa in the time indicated, they would have had to have travelled at a speed of well over 100 miles per hour.

"In their cabin one night, they observed a tremendous number of tiny pinpoints of light in a meadow which lies below the cabin at the very base of the Sangre de Christo slope and adjacent to the Sand Dunes Road. Several other persons were in the cabin and observed the phenomenon. An investigation of the meadow the next morning produced nothing out of the ordinary.

"Mrs. Lewis related that Larry Childs, a UFO researcher and an airline employee, had visited Harry King to view the blinded, deformed calf. At that time, however, Mr. King had destroyed the calf. Childs was able to obtain one of the calf's deformed hooves, and proceeded with it to his home in northern Colorado. On the way, Childs was involved in a one-car automobile accident. It was reported that the steering column on Child's car had the appearance of being sawed or cut.

"Mrs. Lewis felt that the area around Uraka Canyon and Uraka Cemetery had had possibly the highest concentration of UFO sightings and anomalous activity.

"She told us of two young Alamosa residents who were parked at the cemetery one night and observed a 'creature' of some sort.

"The Lewises have found very large and unidentified tracks in the area in which their cabin is located. The tracks were reportedly spaced at a distance of nine feet apart."

IV

"In the vicinity of the Lewis cabin one morning at approximately 10.00 a.m., Mr. Lewis and a friend of his heard an unusual and unidentified scream or cry in the mountains above them. Mr. Lewis is familiar with the cry of a cat or cougar, but this apparently would not account for the sound.

"The Lewises said that on several occasions at the cabin, unidentified sounds similar to 'motors' have been heard. Also, a rumbling sound seemed to come from the ground and the chandelier hanging from the cabin ceiling has been observed swinging and swaying back and forth.

"Mrs. Lewis feels that UFOs may very well be hostile and that they may 'come out in force' someday."

V

"On one occasion, Mr. Wilson (a member of APRO; he and his wife have seen anomalous lights from the Lewis cabin—J.B.) was returning from the Great Sand Dunes with a lady who is a good friend of theirs. They were travelling south on the Sand Dunes Road when, after passing the Zapata Ranch area, the lady noticed something in the valley to the right of them, and commented that she didn't think that there was a "motel" in that part of the valley (that portion of the valley is uninhabited). Mr. Wilson glanced to the right and did indeed see what he described as 'walls' or a structure which appeared to be about two stories tall. They stopped their vehicle and backed up to the point from which they had seen the 'structure,' but it was no longer to be seen.

"Mrs. Wilson reported that she does not ordinarily sleep well; but after she has observed an anomaly, she tends to sleep extremely well.

"The Wilsons do not necessarily subscribe to the idea that UFOs may be hostile. Mrs. Wilson feels that they are most definitely harmless.

"They have spent many nights parked in the valley to observe anomalies. On several occasions they have experienced buzzing sounds or high-pitched whines although nothing was sighted visually. Once, the whine was so intense that it induced pain and Mrs. Wilson was partially paralysed so that she could not speak."

VI

"Mr. Robinson (who owns a small house trailer near the Lewis cabin—J.B.) spoke to us quite readily. He denied ever seeing any unusual lights in the area or experiencing any of the other unusual phenomena that others have reported. He feels, though, that people in the area have been seeing 'something,' although he reserved judgment on whatever the 'something' might be. He spoke of mysterious tracks which have been found in the area of Uraka Cemetery. He mentioned that compass deviations were quite common in the area, and that he had seen this occur."

VII

"On one occasion, Mr. Richmond (an APRO investigator, who was the first person to begin a thorough examination of the Snippy incident—J.B.) was in the Lewis cabin observing the San Luis Valley from the picture window. He heard a sound as though something had struck the roof of the cabin. He grabbed a flashlight and approached the door leading to the outside. He stopped at the door and he feels that here he may have received some type of 'contact.' He felt that something

had told him that a 'surveying disc' had accidentally struck the cabin roof and rapidly moved off. He also sensed that he was being told not to go outside to investigate. Mr. Richmond hesitated for 45 minutes before going outside, only to find nothing.

"On another occasion, Mr. Richmond saw a large white light from the cabin window and called it to the attention of Dr. Leo Sprinkle and others present. When the others left the cabin to observe it, the light had begun to fade rapidly from view. Mr. Richmond feels that this was his best sighting, personally.

"Mr. Richmond and Duane Martin (of the US Forest Service) were parked in the San Luis Valley one night and observing the mountains facing them. They were standing in the road when the headlights of one of their cars suddenly came on."

VIII

"Mr. Richmond believed that his telephone had been tapped 'a couple of times' and that Mrs. Berle Lewis's phone was constantly tapped.

"Mr. Richmond feels that Harry King's blinded, deformed calf may have been exposed to radiation. The calf was photographed by Mr. Richmond before Harry King destroyed it. On the day that Richmond was at the King Ranch to view the calf, a large jet interceptor with what appeared to be conventional military insignias flew over and repeatedly 'buzzed' the ranch area."

IX

"Once, while observing anomalies, Mr. Richmond experienced a time lapse or blackout of sorts which lasted for about half an hour."

X

"Mr. Richmond said that, on the night when something struck the roof of the Lewis cabin, he felt that 'something' had told him to leave the cabin area, not to return until it would be indicated that it was safe to return. The Richmonds left the cabin and did not return for three months. Similarly, Mr. and Mrs. Berle Lewis also felt that they should refrain from staying at the cabin. They also remained away for the same three-month period. One night, the Richmonds and the Lewises both decided, independently, that it was safe to visit the cabin, which they did.

"The Richmonds have investigated the report of Kenneth Flack, a college student who resides in Pueblo. One night Mr. Flack was driving alone on a highway at the northern end of the San Luis Valley. He was about to pass two other vehicles: a Ford with a Texas licence plate and a camper containing a family from Pueblo. As Flack was about to pass, the lights on all three vehicles went out and the motors stopped. Flack pulled over to the side of the highway and noticed a light in a field off to his right. The light seemed to be approximately 350 yards away. Flack left his car, crossed a fence which stood about 50 yards from the highway, and proceeded towards the light. Flack then noted that the light originated from a 'football-shaped object.' The object appeared to be suspended a short distance above a base of some sort which exhibited three tripod-like legs upon which it rested. As Flack approached the object, he noted that the 'football' seemed to 'swivel' such that one end pointed towards him. At this time Flack observed a ray or ligtt which originated from the object. The light reached him and, as he began to throw up his hands in front of him, he blacked out. His next sensation was of extreme coldness, and he realised that someone was carrying him.

"The passengers had observed Flack from the highway as he approached the object. They saw the object turn towards him and, although they did not see a light or ray originating from the object, they noted that Flack was suddenly enveloped by an aura of light and he appeared to become paralysed. The legs of the object's base then appeared to fold under the base and the object rose into the air and took off at high speed towards the north-east. The passengers in the other two vehicles noted that the aura surrounding Flack remained for five minutes after the object had vanished from sight. The aura then disappeared and they approached Flack, who at that time was regaining consciousness, noting when they touched him that he seemed very cold. The persons in one of the vehicles then took Flack to his college dormitory."

XI

"Once, while visiting at a friend's home in Pueblo, Mr. Richmond noticed, as he left the house, a jeep parked across the street which suddenly left the area at a considerable rate of speed as Richmond stepped out the door of the house. While Richmond had been in the house, his friends thought that whoever was driving the jeep had brought Richmond and was waiting for him. They were about to suggest that Richmond ask his 'friend' to come in. As Richmond left the house and proceeded to his car, the jeep drove away and Mr. Richmond caught a glimpse of the driver. He noted nothing particularly unusual about him, except that he seemed to be rather small. A circle was inscribed on the door of the jeep. Within the circle was a lightning bolt and something also that Mr. Richmond thought was reminiscent of a bird. A car with a lightning bolt on the door was involved in the Dale Spaur case."

XII

"Terry Vitullo, who resides in Pueblo, Colorado, is an APRO member who works closely with Don Richmond. Mr. Vitullo has a great interest in photography, and he has captured many anomalies on film . . . A photograph of a man appeared in the prints of one of these rolls of film, after processing. Mr. Vitullo does not know this man (attired in business suit and tie, photographed from the chest up, blank expression, male Caucasian, background appears to be a wall of some sort) nor does he recall taking his picture. The other prints from that roll of film are of the sky taken from Mr. Vitullo's window."

XIII

"The night of March 26-27 was the coldest night we experienced at the Lewis cabin. We had noticed earlier that a great deal of snow seemed to be falling on the higher peaks. The four of us slept in the living room

of the cabin, where the fireplace was located. As we were preparing for bed, we noticed that the room seemed abnormally warm. It soon became extremely hot and we were so uncomfortable that we were unable to sleep. The fire was moderately blazing, but no more so than it had been any other night, when the room would still be slightly chilled in places, even as the fire blazed, and we usually slept in some kind of clothing. This night, however, we discarded our clothing but were still unable to attain any degree of comfort, and we perspired freely. The heat eventually subsided and we were able to sleep."

* * * * *

Taken at their face value, these incidents seem to present overwhelming evidence for the existence of "something" in the area, but human psychology is a revealing study, and people have been known to read far more into an event than is valid. Consider how many times an extra-bright planet in our night sky has been positively identified as a UFO. And I myself was once present on a well-known Wiltshire hill when someone who shall be nameless claimed as a UFO a moving light which was quite obviously a satellite. Wishful thinking plus a touch of local hysteria is all that is necessary to turn straightforward events into mysteries, and we must all beware of falling victim to this.

However, I am quite convinced that strange things *are* happening, often unnoticed or unrecognised, all over the world, and the events in the San Luis Valley may be just another expression of this global phenomenon. The only problem is, how do we distinguish between objective and subjective happenings? Even subjective happenings may be controlled by an outside agency, and so perhaps it isn't necessary to try to categorise events into "true" or "false," "real" or "unreal." Perhaps I'm being too sensitive about the whole subject of interpreting "anomalous events," or perhaps this confusion and uncertainty is all engineered by THEM. Who knows? I certainly don't.

MAIL BAG

Correspondence is invited from our readers, but they are asked to keep their letters short. Unless letters give the sender's full name and address (not necessarily for publication) they cannot be considered. The Editor would like to remind correspondents that it is not always possible to acknowledge every letter personally, so he takes this opportunity of thanking all who write to him.

Buddhism, Christianity and UFOs

Dear Sir,—Ted Holiday (*Was "God" at Aberfan?* FSR July/August 1972) believes that the Buddhist world view offers a more reasonable habitat than Christianity for UFO and related phenomena. In fact, whether it is support for the "big bang" theory you want, or a realistic approach to the mysterious prevalence of evil, and evil entities in all kinds of guises, the Bible is emphatically your book. Certainly it is cryptic at times; certainly the imagery can be baffling. But it deals with things which must remain (except for glorious essentials) beyond our comprehension so long as we are trapped in time and space. I find it a good deal more convincing than the nebulous obfuscations of Buddhism.

Yours truly,
Peter Jackson,
5 Walsingham Road,
New Addington, Surrey.
September 22, 1972.

Piri-Reis map: Dr. Paul Davies replies

Dear Sir,—Several people have written to me in connection with my recent article on the Piri-Reis map, pointing out the absence of any reference to a book called *Maps of the Ancient Sea Kings* by C. H. Hapgood, in which a discussion of the map occupies a prominent position.

Whilst preparing the article I tried unsuccessfully to obtain a copy of the book (which was not published in the U.K.). I was, however, familiar with Hapgood's earlier work *Earth's Shifting Crust* which contains a footnote about the map. In this footnote, the speculation described in my article is already attributed to Mallery *et al.* I therefore did not regard Hapgood as an original source on the matter, and decided to omit the reference.

Since that time a copy of *Maps of the Ancient Sea Kings* has been very kindly lent to me by Dr. Ronald Westrum. As I had assumed, the book does not contain any further speculation, but concentrates instead on Mr. Hapgood's efforts to obtain a projection for the map which would justify Mallery's claim that a portion of Antarctica is included. I do not regard these efforts as successful, but in view of the apparent interest in this author I am preparing a sequel to my article in which these matters are discussed in detail.

Yours etc.,
Paul C. W. Davies.

[*Dr. Davies has now taken up a new post with the University of London*—EDITOR.]

Devil's Footprints

Dear Sir,—On the question of The Devil's Footprints, a fellow reader of the *Review*, Mr. Michael Poyle, asks whether any measurements were taken at the time to ascertain if the distance between the prints varied where they traversed a sloping roof.

The only reference in this connection appears to have been in an eyewitness account sent in soon after the visitation to the *Illustrated London News* by a reader signing himself "South Devon," part of which reads as follows:

". . . this regular track (the footprints) passing in some instances over the roofs of houses, and hayricks, and very high walls (one 14 feet) without displacing the snow on either side *or altering the distance between the feet* . . ." (my italics).

Further to the numerous theories put forward for the cause of The Devil's Footprints, another eye-witness, writing this time to the London *Times*, describes the prints as appearing to have been caused by a drill or mechanical contrivance and I submit that the solution to this age-old mystery can be found by studying reports of Flying Wheels such as that appearing on Page 15 of the July/August 1972 issue of FSR.

A wheel, with spokes protruding slightly beyond its rim, would make a series of regular prints in the snow as it bowled across the countryside, although the description "wheel" can, for the moment, only be our own rationalisation for something whose actual construction and purpose is quite beyond our present comprehension.

Yours truly,
S. E. Priest,
22 Sutherland Road,
Southall, Middlesex.
September 24, 1972.

Saucer-induced learning?

Dear Sir,—In the article *Recent Reports From Argentina And Peru* (FSR Vol. 18 No. 4) Jane Thomas

reports on one Señor Martinez, an illiterate, who after being contacted by a flying saucer crew, became gifted with a high educational level. In his comments at the end of the article Gordon Creighton says that one should watch for other cases of this type.

With this in mind, may I refer you to FSR Vol. 7 No. 4, where a report is given of two girls being contacted by the beings of a landed "Saucer" in Wales. As a result of this, one of the girls who had been hopeless at maths became a genius. If true, this early case shows that this process could have been going on for some considerable time.

Yours truly,
A. J. Bagnall,
4 Hanover Gardens,
76 Holly Walk,
Royal Leamington Spa, Warwickshire.
October 2, 1972.

THE HITCH-HIKER FROM SPACE

Jane Thomas

SEVERAL Buenos Aires newspapers of the end of August and early September 1972 carried accounts of the weird experience of an Argentinian mechanic, who claimed that during the early hours of Sunday, August 27, he gave a ride in his car to an extraterrestrial being. The fullest account was in the Buenos Aires magazine *Así* of September 1, 1972, and I give below a full translation which I have made of this. There are a few minor discrepancies in the other press accounts, as frequently happens. For example, *La Razón* (August 29) gave the mechanic's name as Eduardo Fernando de Deugd, while *La Nación* of the same date gave it as Eduardo Fernando de Deuce.

* * * * *

From the *Así* correspondent in Bahía Blanca[1] comes the fascinating story told by a local mechanic, to the effect that he carried an extraterrestrial being in his car. The story has created a great commotion here.

The mechanic is Eduardo Fernando Dedeu, aged 32, and married, who owns his own mechanical repairs shop at No. 19 Calle de Córdoba, Bahía Blanca. The occurrence took place in the early morning of last Sunday, on the highway from Médanos to Bahía Blanca.[2] Sr. Dedeu is getting no rest now. Neighbours, investigators, newspapermen, and also the Police, are constantly questioning him in order to get him to recall further details of the incident.

THE MEETING

In the early hours of Sunday, August 27, Eduardo Fernando Dedeu was returning home after attending a dinner in Médanos. After travelling a short distance from that town, he noticed someone flagging him for a lift. This was a man wearing a coat with the collar turned up, and a cap covering his head. His face was somewhat more elongated than is normal. (Other versions state that he wore a roundish hat and that his chin was so large that it almost reached to his chest.—J.T.)

Dedeu decided to stop for him, and the man stepped into the car in silence and sat down beside him. The mechanic asked him whether he was going to Bahía Blanca, and the man answered with something unintelligible.

Then Dedeu asked him whether he was from Médanos, and the stranger made some sort of incomprehensible reply. Dedeu thought that the man must be a local peasant who could not talk well, and who possibly was too shy to express himself loudly and clearly.

The trip then continued without further conversation. But when they reached the 710 km. mark, the car's lights went out and Dedeu was obliged to stop. He then noticed what he at first took to be some kind of bus overturned on the highway. It had a large blue light in the middle and two more lights, somewhat smaller and white, at the sides.

Dedeu went on to relate how he had got out of the car, when a powerful white flash of light dazzled him, and he felt intense heat. He took shelter behind the door of the car, and when he was able to look up he saw that the object, which had white lights in its windows and a green light on its underpart, was moving towards the left. He says that all this happened in a few seconds, and that when he stepped back into the car he found

that the seat where the unknown traveller had been was empty. The door was open, and the handle was on the floor of the car. At that same moment the car-lights, which had gone out, came on again.

Nervous and shaken, he drove on to Bahía Blanca.

* * * * *

The variant reports in the other newspapers said that the car is an old 1938 or 1939 model (Ford?) and that Dedeu had stopped to fix up a wire to serve as a radio antenna, so that he could listen to the radio, when the other individual had signalled to him. These other reports also contain the statement that the radio was on the whole time during the journey and that maybe it was due to this, plus the noise of the engine, that Dedeu had not understood what the other person had said.

Now, let us return to the *Así* account:

OTHER WITNESSES

The mechanic made his report on the affair at the Second Police Precinct Headquarters, where he was questioned for four hours in the presence of a doctor. As was learnt subsequently, he presented no abnormality, and his story is serious and coherent.

Sr. Dedeu states that he was twice seen UFOs, some time ago. One occasion was when he was in his teens, and the other was while he was on his honeymoon in San Juan Province (near Mendoza, in the S.W. of Argentina.—J.T.).

It must be pointed out that there are other people who declare that they saw the same UFO that Sr. Dedeu saw in the early morning of Sunday, August 27. Aníbal Pato and his wife reported that they had seen the strange object near the town of Algarrobo. And Sr. Juan Carlos Oro, a young man residing at House 73 in the Marine Corps Base at Baterías, made a similar statement.

Investigators from the Universidad Nacional del Sur (Southern National University) are looking into the case and are making an exhaustive inspection of Sr. Dedeu's car in order to see whether any traces of the extraterrestrial being remain.

Another piece of testimony which coincides with the statements of the above-mentioned persons comes from Sr. Roberto Maisterrena, who works at a factory located in the area where the phenomenon took place. Maisterrena reported the matter to the Médanos Police Headquarters. He told them that at approximately 3.00 a.m. on the day in question he saw a strange craft emitting flashes of white light and stationary above a hill near National Highway No. 3. He described the vehicle as being "like a kind of bus," including also the detail that it had openings similar to windows.

As always happens in these cases, not everybody who heard Dedeu's account believed it. Some even thought it a hallucination such as occurs with a person who is perhaps drunk or given to fantasy and to spectacular jokes. But such is not the case with Dedeu. Those who know him all agree that he is a serious person, who never drinks.

A STRANGE VISIT

This is not the first time that a terrestrial has said that he has beheld an extraterrestrial. Let us recall, for example, the experience undergone by a young lady of Villa Carlos Paz, in the Province of Córdoba, on June13, 1968. That night, María Eladia Pretzel,[3] who was 19 years old at the time, was in the kitchen of her father's motel called "La Cuesta."

The girl noticed that there was a powerful light in the entrance hall and went there to see what was happening. Her surprise was immense, as there was a very tall man there, blond and good-looking. His hair was combed back from the face and he was wearing a sort of meshed garment of a phosphorescent light blue colour. From the nails of his hands came luminous rays directed forwards and backwards. In his left hand he was carrying a sort of crystal sphere that emitted powerful flashes. On the right hand a ring could be clearly seen, esembling a gauntlet, which covered half the hand and was fitted tightly on to his fourth finger. Each time that he raised this hand, in a gesture that seemed friendly, he gave the impression that he was rising from the floor and hanging suspended in the air. When this happened the girl felt her strength leaving her and she began to reel. But when the being lowered his hand she recovered immediately.

According to María Eladia's account the man started to walk towards her with a fixed, inexpressive smile. He also moved his lips gently, emitting sounds in a language that she could not understand. The girl said that she felt as though her head was full of bubbles, and that beads of perspiration were running down her neck. However she managed to touch herself, and found that her skin was in fact completely dry. She said that she received a sort of telepathic message from him telling her not to be afraid. She stated that at one moment the man approached the counter where she was standing and that when he did this the luminous sphere that he had in his hand was in constant movement. Then the light in the sphere went out, and he stopped, and turned towards the exit door.

Seeing him from behind, the girl noticed that he had a sort of skirt covered with silvery scales. When the being got to the door it opened automatically, and closed again afterwards without his having to touch it.

Feeling that she was going to faint, María Eladia managed to get to her bedroom, and threw herself, face down, upon the bed. Her father, who was just coming back to the house at that moment, stated that he saw two large vivid red lights on the road. At first he thought they might belong to some vehicle, but then he noticed that they were too far apart to belong to a vehicle. On entering the house, he found his daughter in a swoon. When he had brought her round again she told him this fascinating story, which caused a tremendous commotion at the time.

Notes

1 Southern part of Buenos Aires Province, near the Atlantic Ocean, 562 miles from the Capital, Buenos Aires.

2 National Highway No. 3.

3 For the full account of this case, see Charles Bowen's *Strangers About the House* in FSR for September/October 1968.

GOBBLEDYGOOK

Gordon Creighton

ONE evening in the latter half of the 1950s, with Brinsley le Poer Trench and Alec Heathcote, I went to an apartment in Mount Street, in London's fashionable Mayfair district, to interview some French people who claimed that they had just had an extraordinary experience.

We found them to be a highly intelligent, refined, and wealthy family consisting, if my memory is reliable,[1] of an elderly lady (the mother), and two or three of her daughters, all women of mature age.

None of these ladies claimed to have the slightest knowledge of, or interest in, the UFO phenomenon, but they were all obviously extremely excited about something that they said they had heard a few nights before in a radio news broadcast from Paris. They said that, as they sat there listening to the news in French, an excited voice broke in on the programme, and announced that a "flying saucer" had landed near the town of Samarra, in Iraq, and that a great crowd of people, including officers of the Iraq armed forces (Air Force I believe), had observed several tall beings that had emerged from the machine. The report went on to say that some of the officers had gone forward and had had some sort of communication with the beings, which had stated that the political and military situation on this planet was causing them great concern. One of the Iraqi officers had been so unnerved by the experience that he had collapsed on the spot and had to be removed to hospital. He was quoted as having said that, on approaching the beings, he had become "aware of his own thoughts," which he could see in front of his eyes, outside his body, and had become aware of what seemed to be a "wheel"[2] rotating on, or in front of, his forehead.

I wrote at once to the broadcasting authorities in Paris, explained the details of the above story, and enquired whether they could throw any light on it. I also asked for a full list of all the emissions, in all their services, during the week in question, and I was careful also to enquire whether they had put on any science-fiction programmes or stories about flying saucers.

In due course I received a reply from the Director, enclosing the French equivalent of the British *Radio Times* for the week in question and assuring me that the matter I had raised was totally unknown to him and his staff, that he had made enquiries, and regretted he could throw absolutely no light on it.[3]

It seems that nobody in France had heard the curious, excited, breathless interruption and the announcement about the flying saucer landing near Samarra. Nor could the French ladies in Mount Street produce any other people who could vouch for their extraordinary story, and confirm that they too had heard the "report from Iraq."

So far as I know, the matter was never solved. It may very well have been a hoax. If so, by whom? And if so, why does nobody else appear to have heard the hoax?

Of only one thing am I absolutely certain, and that is that these elegant and distinguished French ladies, with whom we spent at least two hours, hearing all details of the case, cannot possibly have been lying or hoaxing. They all definitely thought that they had heard what I have reported above, and nothing would budge them from their story. *They may well have been hallucinated. If so, by whom, and for what purpose?* They were not "flying saucer buffs".

If they were the victims of an auditory group hallucination, it is interesting that we have never heard of anyone else who participated in their hallucination.

An American Case

Dr. Berthold E. Schwarz, M.D., has just given us, in his article "*Beauty of the Night*,"[4] details of a similar occurrence claimed to have befallen Mr. B.C., a fifty-three-year-old university graduate in engineering and business administration, and his wife, during a six-to-nine month period in 1958. The account is as follows:

"My wife and I heard a WOR radio news bulletin which interrupted the regular programme for a few minutes but which no one else heard. We were driving from Montclair to Pluckemin, New Jersey, where a meeting on saucers was held every week. While I was listening to the regular programme, an announcer cut in and said: 'It's been reported that the British have communicated with a saucer in England and have made arrangements to meet with the occupants.'

"I turned to my wife and was stunned. When I asked her, 'Will you tell me what was just said on the radio?' she gave it to me just the way I had heard it.

"I enquired about this when we arrived at Pluckemin, and although the people there were also listening to that particular radio show, they hadn't heard what we did! I could hardly believe what I had heard. I never had an experience like that before or since. A hoax would have been very unlikely."

Well, now. Let us note that here again there was allegedly an interruption in a regular news broadcast and an announcement concerning flying saucers. An interruption that apparently nobody else noticed and an announcement that apparently nobody else heard. The features of the French case and the American case are identical.

A New British Case (1972) Involving the Telephone

The following story appeared in the British edition of *Fate* magazine.[5] I have checked every detail of it by telephone with Mr. Eric Pummell of Eastern Counties Newspapers, who is the gentleman concerned, and he assures me that the *Fate* story is entirely correct, that it happened this year, and that so far it remains totally unexplained.

UFO PHONE CALL

Though he was speaking on the phone at the time, Mr. Eric Pummell, manager of the London office of Eastern Counties Newspapers, had an instinctive feeling he should fasten a seat belt.

He was in the middle of a routine telephone conversation with the Ipswich office, when suddenly he got a crossed line.

And what he heard made him sit bolt upright and brace himself. He found himself listening in to what seemed a highly dramatic conversation between a crippled Pan-American airliner and the control tower at Heathrow Airport.

Mr. Pummell heard the "aircraft" give warning that its starboard engine was losing power and that its undercarriage was jammed. There were a few more exchanges before the "control tower" stated that a runway had been covered with foam, and emergency services contacted, and that it was all right to land.

After three minutes of this interruption, Mr. Pummell was able to return to his original conversation.

What he really overheard remains a mystery however, for both Pan-American and the Civil Aviation Authority have confirmed that no aircraft was in trouble at the time of the telephone call.

The number of the aircraft was mentioned in the conversation, but at the time this aircraft was at Istanbul.

The Department of Trade and Industry thought that Mr. Pummell must have somehow overheard a television or radio programme or a tape recording.

Asked if he could throw any further light on the matter, a Post Office spokesman replied: "I am foxed".

The Voices on Tape

More and more readers of *Flying Saucer Review* are becoming aware of the possible links between "Ufology" and "psychic phenomena," and many will therefore have heard of the enormous hullabaloo recently in psychical research and parapsychological circles over the so-called "*Raudive Voices*." To state the matter briefly, it seems that in the early 1960s a Swede named Jurgenson, bent on tape-recording birdsongs from his cottage window, began to get a jumbled smattering of human voices, fragmentary and disconnected, in a number of languages. Jurgenson promptly thought he had captured the voices of the Dead, and wrote two books about it. The Latvian savant Dr. Konstantin Raudive, then resident in Sweden, found he could duplicate the phenomenon for himself, and soon had a collection of over 72,000 voices on tape. He too wrote a book about it, and this book,[6] for some mysterious reason, has created a sensation among even sceptical and conservative European parapsychological research circles, such as the Germans and the Swiss. Raudive's book has been translated into many languages and is a best-seller. Everybody is hard at work getting his own "messages from the Dead". And a fine welter and hotch-potch it is. I notice that the owner of the tape is most likely to get messages in those languages that he himself knows. In Raudive's case, this means a farrago of pidgin-Latvian, pidgin-German, pidgin-Russian, pidgin-Swedish, with a very small amount of pidgin-English and pidgin-Spanish. (And I should perhaps make it clear at this point that I have met Dr. Raudive and have heard his tapes.[7] I am just as sure as he is that they are "paranormal." That is to say, that *he* did not perpetrate them. At any rate not intentionally! There are however sceptics who prefer to see in the phenomenon a product of the human subconscious but I do not share this view.)

Neither Jurgenson nor Dr. Raudive knew—at any rate I can confirm that Raudive did not know until I told him—that this phenomenon of "mystery voices on tapes" is nothing new to readers of *Flying Saucer Review*. Already, in August 1957, Philip Rodgers,[8] an exceptionally gifted, half-blind musician of Grindleford, Sheffield, was getting snatches of voice, and music too, by precisely the same method of hanging his tape-recorder out of the window.

Mr. Rodgers was a "UFO buff," and he accordingly announced that he had secured recordings of "Spacemen's voices and Spacemen's music." Dr. Raudive and Herr Jurgenson, not being UFO fans, plumped for the "voices of the Dead" theory.

From the specimens of Mr. Rodgers' "Spacemen's wisdom" that have come my way I would judge that they are every whit as unenlightened and platitudinous as Dr. Raudive's person-to-person callers from the Great Beyond.

Raudive's "voices," which some listeners can detect at once, while others require an initial period of ear-training, come in several degrees of audibility and in a grammatically and philologically nonsensical mixture of several languages, as stated above. But the blending and fitting together of this garbled result is highly ingenious and decidedly uniform in pattern; it has a real system and "pseudogrammar" of its own. The result is a pithy, concentrated brand of shorthand-cum-international telegraphese.

The bursts of speech on the Raudive tapes are generally of but a few words and seldom run to long sentences. The voices are highly imitative. Many of the participants in these experiments have instantly "recognised" them as of their own departed ones.

Adopting great familiarity of manner, speaking in a strange sort of rhythm, *and at a speed of at least twice the speed normal for humans*, the "communicators" leap from subject to subject like squirrels in a cage. They claim that they are present in the room, see the operators, know all about them, address them by name or nickname, give their own names, speak of "feeling cold" (even of "feeling unwell" in one case!), of being able to "see the Moon", and so on. (There are no references to UFOs.)

There is much vague hint of strife and fighting and alarums, snatches of soldier-talk from the last war, in Latvian, German, Russian; mention of outposts, bridgeheads, operations, passwords, passes, control-points, permits, bridges that they are building, and so on. It all sounds depressingly like *this* world that we know! If the voices come from Valhalla, then it must be a special Valhalla for the Insane!

There are frequent references to the Nazis, to Stalin, Hitler, Trotsky, and various other luminaries who, if they exist in any sort of Limbo today, may well be expected to be gracing some of the lowest possible Depths.

The alleged "communicators" include of course scores of "deceased relatives" and "friends" (generally named), and a mixed bag of notabilities ranging all the way from Nietzsche, Dostoevsky and Tolstoy to the two

terrible Dictators of World War Two. And what those titanic minds of Nietzsche, Dostoevsky, and Tolstoy have to tell us from the Shades is an incredible farrago of jibberish, disjointed and fragmented platitudes, all of the most utterly mastodontic banality.

The sceptics naturally solved the problem in a trice by announcing that all this stuff was faked, picked up from radio stations. While the more conservative of the German parapsychologists said of course that it was simply the old human unconscious projecting itself onto magnetic tape—though so far they have failed to show us how it is done.

As regards the radio station thesis, Raudive points out that all European radio stations are constantly pouring out music, so that, if the radio station thesis be correct, it is decidedly odd that all his mass of material contains *not one scrap of music*. Also, says Raudive, even in our crazy world no human radio stations are given to transmitting programmes in a gobbledygook cocktail of tongues such as his tapes contain.

It is odd to see even scientists getting excited about these Raudive tapes, but there may be valuable results if finally the investigators can bring themselves to recognise that the "communicators," far from being dear old Uncle Bert and Auntie Mabel, are a great deal more likely to be gremlins, elementals, poltergeists, goblins, a choice selection from the grand ragbag of zany spooks and, no doubt, other as yet uncatalogued categories of weird life-forms of low level that probably infest the unseen worlds around us.

From the examples of the radio-programme and phone-call interruptions which I cited at the outset of this article, it will of course be clear that while no doubt the only aim in all cases is to *deceive*, there certainly does seem to be a coherence and a logic, and unity, about the first-named category of phenomena which are strikingly lacking in the Raudive tapes. That this is so must be admitted. The explanation may well lie in the fact that the entities (UFO entities?) responsible for the first category are of a far more intelligent level than the gremlins responsible for the mess on the tapes.

In neither category, alas, can one feel that our species is going to find any sort of help or guidance. The overall aim is clearly to obstruct, to mislead, to bamboozle. They seem to be enjoying themselves, but woe betide the humans who pay too much heed to this drivel, which is the drivel that has been seeping out of the séance rooms for a century past.

Notes

1 I am obliged to quote from memory, as my detailed notes on this case are at present inaccessible, buried in a small spare room filled to the ceiling with books and papers. I hope to dig them out before long.

2 One is inevitably reminded of the *chakras*, one of which (the Ajna) is traditionally located at the forehead. *Chakra* means literally *wheel* in Sanskrit, and we are told that when clairvoyantly observed, they appear to rotate like wheels and to shine with many colours. According to the arcane teachings, they are important organs in the spiritual body of Man, and serve as channels from which power flows down from higher levels of being. Another important *chakra*, the Manipūra, is located at the navel, and many readers will have remembered this when reading Aimé Michel's account of the triangles mysteriously produced on the navels of Dr. "X" and his small son. We may even be able to make certain deductions from the fact that the mark is triangular, but this is an involved matter which I must leave for discussion on another occasion.

3 See Note No. 1.

4 Dr. Berthold E. Schwarz: "*Beauty of the Night*" in FSR for July/August 1972 (p. 5).

5 *Fate*, October 1972.

6 Original, in German, *Unhörbares Wird Hörbar* (*The Inaudible Becomes Audible*), Otto Reichl Verlag, Remagen, DM24·00 (1968).
English translation: *Breakthrough, An Amazing Electronic Communication with the Dead*, Colin Smythe, London, 1971, £3·50.
See also reviews by Herr Gerd Lüdemann in *Light*, London (Summer 1969) and by Gordon Turner and others in *Psychic News*, London, 1970 and 1971.

7 See Gordon Creighton: *These Voices Are Paranormal, but . . .* In *Two Worlds*, London, June 1971.

8 See Philip Rodgers: "The Sheffield Saucers," in *Flying Saucer Review* for September/October 1957. Also Bernard Smith: "Mysterious Tape Recordings: People From Outer Space Contact Earth Man By 'Radio,'." in *Flying Saucer Review* for July/August 1958.

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THE HEALING OF WOUNDS

continued from page 9

and not a magnetic field. Could it possibly be that a magnetic field *was* responsible, and that the pigeons and mice at Warminster, and the mice in the French laboratory, all died *because their histamine had not been topped up?*

Happy Christmas

THE EDITOR AND PUBLISHERS OF THE ***FLYING SAUCER REVIEW***

wish their readers a very Happy Christmas and an exciting New Year

World round-up *of news and comment about recent sightings*

ENGLAND

UFO terrifies Hainault youths

An unusual UFO incident in the rain was stated to have taken place on Friday, September 16, 1972, at Hainault, one of the eastern suburbs of London which reach into Essex. This account is taken from the *Ilford Pictorial and Guardian* of September 20, 1972—

"Danny Harle and Colin Hastings . . . (of) Kingswood Youth Club . . . left their homes in Brocket Way, Hainault, shortly after 9 p.m., and walked quickly to the club through driving rain. As they walked down Harbourer Road, 15-year-old Colin glanced upwards.

"He stopped walking and pointed to the sky. Danny also stopped and followed his friend's gaze to a sight that seconds later, had the two terror-stricken boys running in fear of their lives.

"Above their heads, resting immobile, lay three clouds, each glowing with brilliant white light.

"There was a noise, low but distinctive, and the air seemed to fill with a deep electric hum.

"And as the sound grew louder one 'cloud' quickly compressed into a small triangle and moved from sight, leaving a strange incandescent tail across the sky.

"Another 'cloud' seemed to vibrate from side to side while the third suddenly zoomed into a tiny pinpoint of light. Danny saw it apparently about to disappear, then watched it horrified as it returned suddenly in a huge cigar shape, which tilted and then appeared to come closer and closer to them.

" 'We went out of our minds with fright,' said 18-year-old Danny, 'it seemed to be filling the whole sky. We just panicked and ran and ran till we got to the youth club.'

" 'When we glanced outside again there was just the vibrating cloud left. It began darting about, almost as if it was lost, and then turned into a triangle and vanished in the same direction as the first one.'

"When they phoned Barkingside Police, both boys expected the whole episode to be taken with a pinch of salt. But instead the police warned Air Traffic Control at West Drayton, and then contacted the Air Ministry—because they too have seen the strange visitor in the stars.

"On the night before Friday's strange happenings a policeman passing through Hainault at roughly the same time, looked into the sky and saw the three glowing clouds.

"The Air Ministry, too, are concerned over the sighting, and have launched a full-scale enquiry.

"But whatever the official findings, Danny and Colin remain convinced that the 'things' came from another world.

" 'It was all over in four minutes,' Danny said, 'but we were shaking like jellies afterwards. I never believed in this sort of thing before, but now I've actually seen something, I don't know what to think.' "

100ft. UFO over Oldham

We learn from the *Yorkshire Post* of October 21, 1972, that—

"Scientists at Jodrell Bank, Cheshire, are investigating a report that a mysterious 'disc shaped' object was seen in the sky above Oldham, Lancs., by a works security man, Mr. John Byrne.

"Sketches of the 'flying saucer' have been drawn by draughtsmen at the Ferranti electrical engineering works and a spokesman at Jodrell Bank said: 'We are taking a close interest but it is very difficult to come to a firm conclusion without the corroboration of independent witnesses.'

"The object, about 100ft. across, was seen by Mr. Byrne as he made his nightly patrols at the Cairo Mill, Oldham.

"He said yesterday: 'It made a humming noise like a generator and was about 300ft. above the works. Then it turned sharply on its side and shot up into the sky.

" 'I have been frightened before but this was a different type of fear. I was just rooted to the spot.'

"The 'sighting' has been reported to police.

"Mr. Byrne, of Sunfield Way, Lees, near Oldham, added: 'I was sceptical about flying saucers but not any more. Now I am a confirmed believer.' "

[*It will be seen that the date and time of this alleged incident are not given in this report*—EDITOR.]

Credit to **Miss O. Atherton** of Harrogate.

WALES

"Soupbowl" in the sky

The story of a multiple witness UFO case was featured by the *Western Mail* of Saturday, September 16, 1972—

"Three policemen called in after villagers claimed they had seen an object in the sky like a flying saucer said last night there was no doubt the sightings were genuine.

"Police were called after the object was reported by at least 20 people on a housing estate at Croespenmaen, Crumlin, in Monmouthshire.

"The bright orange object appeared in the sky on Thursday night [*September* 14] in the North-West in the direction of the Brecon Beacons, and changed rapidly in colour and size, said the witnesses.

"It was in the sky for about two hours, finally disappearing when an aircraft flew overhead.

"A spokesman at Glamorgan (Rhoose) Airport said last night that two Cambrian Airways Viscounts had landed at the airport at about the same time and could have passed over the area where the object was sighted.

"But as far as he was aware nothing unusual was spotted on the airport's radar.

"The Crumlin area lies directly beneath Green One—the corridor for aircraft flying between Britain and America—but a Civil Aviation Authority spokesman said pilots in the area at the time had not reported anything strange.

"The object was first spotted at 8.30 by Mr. Robert Phillips, aged 24, a plumber, of Meadow Walk, Croespenmaen, who was on his way home from Oakdale.

"He watched it for about 30 minutes through a telescope borrowed from a neighbour, and then phoned the police.

"He said the object looked like an 'inverted soupbowl with dark rings underneath it, which appeared to be spinning.' Three times it disappeared at the approach of an aircraft, but on the third occasion it did not return.

"One of the policemen called to the scene, Sergeant Clive Williams, of Blackwood, said he saw an orange red circle in the sky which seemed to turn over to a cone-shape.

" 'Its colour changed from red to white and green and it moved away rapidly,' he said. 'I revisited the site in the morning and it must have been something in the sky for there are no mountains obstructing the view.' "

Credit to **F. W. Holiday,** who lives in Pembrokeshire, and who observes: "The witnesses seem to have watched the object from the B4261 road between Oakdale and Crumlin. If one takes this approximate position and plots the area in the north-west at the lower shoulder of Cefn Manmoel—where presumably the object was visible—we then find that Tenby, Aberfan and the

new location form a near straight line." [*Mr. Holiday has in mind his Tenby experience which he described in his article "Was 'God' at Aberfan?"* in Flying Saucer Reivew *Vol.* 18, *No.* 4—EDITOR.]

SCOTLAND
Clackmannan mystery light

We read in the *Glasgow Evening Citizen* of September 15, 1972, that—

"A mystery light was seen over Clackmannan last night. It came from the direction of Kincardine-on-Forth and was seen for about 10 minutes over Alloa, the county town.

"Mr. Gordon Gillies, of 36 Gean Road, Alloa, said: 'The object was high in the sky and a bit bigger than the north star. It followed a zig-zag path across the town and back again before disappearing to the south. Each time it changed direction it paused for a second or two before continuing.'

"The Meteorological Office in Glasgow and R.A.F. Pitreavie said that they had no knowledge of high flying objects in the area."

FRANCE
Mystery at Montauroux

Scores of readers have sent copies of the following report from Nice which was published in *The Sunday Express* of October 15, 1972—

"The mystery of Montauroux, a rural commune near Grasse, is still unsolved despite intense police and scientific investigation.

"Last Sunday M. Rene Merle, a local peasant, went along to his woods for a little rough shooting, and was flabbergasted to find that 330 square yards of ground among the pines and white oaks had been 'flattened.'

"Fragments of a section of dry stone wall which appeared to have 'exploded' had been projected in all directions, lacerating the bark of many trees.

"A tree stump previously so firmly embedded that it could not be moved by man alone, had been uprooted and hurled several yards.

"Pine tree trunks 18 inches thick, were coiled up as if by some giant centrifugal force, some twisted in a clockwise direction, others the reverse way. A line of pine trees was sliced as if by a blade in a cut rising progressively from 18in. to 6ft. above ground level.

"On his dry wall M. Merle detected traces of rubbing but no fragments of metal or paint marks.

"The police from the local gendarmes to Riviera headquarters, have confessed they are baffled.

"The wildest rumours are circulating in this quiet corner of Provence.

"Montauroux villagers are convinced that only a flying saucer could have wreaked such havoc on M. Merle's land which is more than 100 yards from the nearest forest track and bears no track marks of a heavy military or other vehicle.

"Nice University Professor of Mineralogical Research, Guy Turco, went to the spot but after spending hours studying the soil and rocks admitted: 'Nothing in the arsenal of my knowledge enables me to explain this phenomenon. The cause is definitely not a meteorite.'

"A tornado, a whirlwind, or lightning? Meteorological experts consulted have declared: 'The trees are all twisted in different directions. A whirlwind always turns in the same direction. Nor is it ever confined to one small area but always moves in a trajectory. It never rises or dies in the same spot.'

"When biology student Alain Jhistarry went to inspect the spot he reported that his compass 'went haywire' and pointed due west instead of to the magnetic north.

"Science fiction writer Jimmy Guieu is positive that behind the mystery can only be 'an extra terrestrial engine, probably 20ft. to 30ft. in diameter, and propelled by anti-gravity magnetic energy.'

"He supports his theory by the fact that last month a ball of fire was seen by several witnesses above the same area. And that the fire brigade found no trace of any fire.

"Now some facetious locals have placed a sign at the entrance to the forest track, reading: 'The Martians' Road.' "

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Cape May UFO photograph

A claim to have photographed a flying saucer has been made by a photographer on the staff of the *Cape May County Gazette*, which is published at the county town of Cape May Court House, New Jersey. The Cape May peninsula will be familiar to readers of FSR Special Issue No. 2, *Beyond Condon*, for the stories of the UFO sightings of the Christiansen family, and for subsequent bizarre events, especially the visit of "Tiny" to their home at Wildwood Crest. The account that follows is taken from the Thursday, July 13, 1972, issue of the *Cape May County Gazette*. We can only wish that the paper had published more than one of the several photographs that are stated to have been taken from Fishing Creek on the evening of Friday, July 7, 1972:

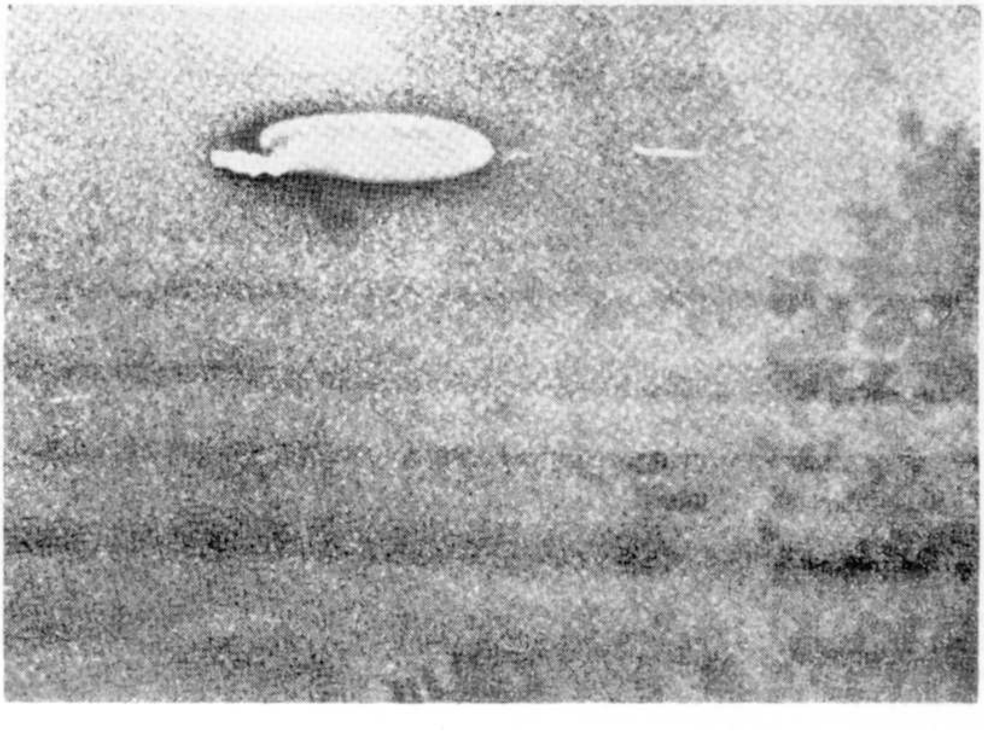
"A flying saucer visited Cape May County Friday night and a County Gazette photographer was there to prove it.

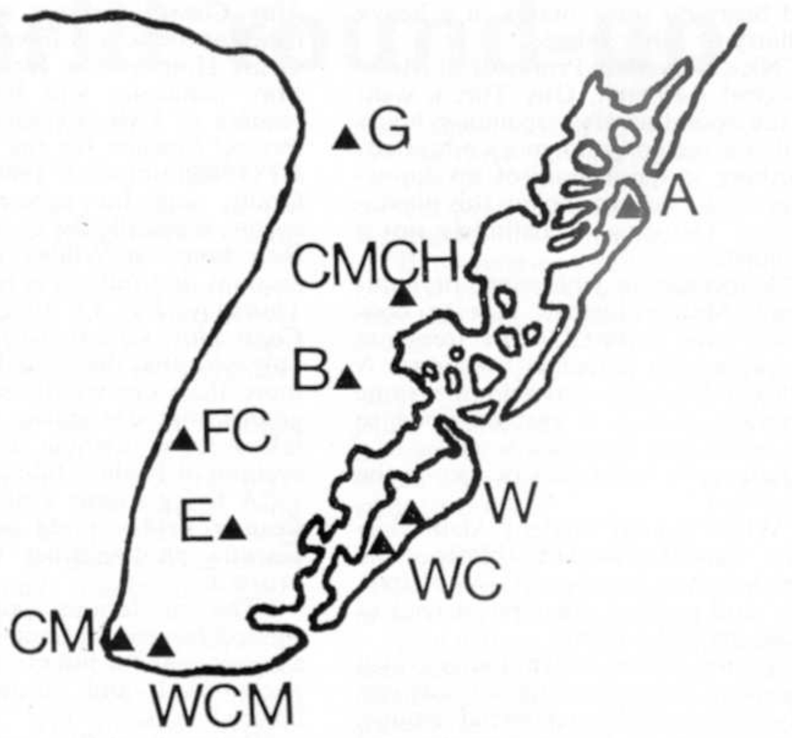
"The mysterious craft was first sighted hovering about 75 feet above a house near the intersection of Tabernacle road and Shunpike shortly before 9 p.m.

"Spinning swiftly and with bright lights shining from its underside, the saucer suddenly sped north over the Cape May County Airport, but not before Frank Markley, of West Cape May, a member of the County Gazette staff, photographed it despite the evening's darkness.

"Markley said he was driving south on Shunpike when he noticed the unusual lights in the sky. He immediately stopped his car and watched the hovering craft for several seconds trying to identify it.

"Certain that the spinning craft idling low over the house met the description of flying saucers reported





KEY: CAPE MAY; NEW JERSEY

E:	Erma	B:	Burleigh
W:	Wildwood	FC:	Fishing Creek
WC:	Wildwood Crest	G:	Goshen
WCM:	West Cape May	A:	Avalon
CM:	Cape May	CMCH:	Cape May Court House

thousands of times over all parts of the United States in recent years, he grabbed his 35 mm. camera, quickly switched from colour film to black and white and began snapping despite the almost total darkness.

"Not until his film was developed and the flying saucer clearly showed on his negatives did he report what he had seen.

"With photographic proof to back him up, he was ready to face the sceptics and the scoffers—including the nation's military minions and the special Air Force department assigned to track down reports of all Unidentified Flying Objects.*

"Markley said the saucer matched descriptions of other UFOs sighted in recent years having a round structure estimated at 25 feet in diameter, a flat bottom studded with bright white lights and a gracefully tapering topside.

"From his vantage point on the shoulder of the road, Markley said the flying saucer appeared to be hovering about 75 feet above the ground and was approximately 150 feet away from him.

"He said the whirr of some kind of motors was definitely audible, and the photographs showed a wake of light or exhaust emission trailing behind the eerie visitor."

Credit to **Mrs. M. Mills Jenkins** of Lebanon, N.J.

* [*Apparently the news that Project Blue Book was disbanded in* 1969 *has not reached these good people*—EDITOR.]

Colby Cops and UFOs

The town of Colby is located in the north western part of the State of Kansas. Unfortunately our correspondent clipped out most of the name of the newspaper; all that can be seen is that it is *Prairie* something of Wednesday, August 23, 1972. The initial report to the police was made by a citizen of Gem, by the name of John L. Calkins, early on Saturday morning, August 19:

". . . after being awakened at 2.00 a.m. by barking dogs, Calkins went to his front door and saw three objects hovering rather close to his home making 'shrill, high whistling sounds' completely different from anything he'd heard before. 'It was the creepiest feeling that I'd ever had,' he said. Calkins also reported seeing six lights on the large object. He also said he saw interior lights on the object and heard beeping sounds.

"Calkins . . . thinks the objects may be earthbased experiments for some sort of advanced space travel being conducted by the United States or the Soviet Union."

That was the incident that sparked off the police involvement, and elsewhere in the article we read that—

"At least 50-60 people are reported to have viewed the objects which were visible between 2.00 a.m. and 6.00 a.m., August 19.

"Paul Carter, member of the Colby Police Department, said the local department received (the) call from Gem about 2.00 a.m. reporting a 'thing or couple of things hovering' with flashing red and green lights.

"After referring the caller to the Thomas County Sheriff's Department, Carter said he dismissed the report until 2.07 a.m. when he was on patrol going east on 4th street.

"Carter said he saw an object with red and green flashing lights coming from the northeast. After radioing the other patrolman on duty, Dennis Brown, Carter began to follow the object south on Country Club Drive.

"After following behind it to the I-70 overpass, Carter stopped and the object began hovering over a pasture. He said it was about one-quarter of a mile from him and between 10 and 15 feet off the ground.

"At this point, the object began turning into an intense white light—too intense to look at. A few seconds later, it made a whooshing sound—similar to a vacuum cleaner—and went straight into the air where it disappeared.

"Brown did see the object disappear into the sky.

"The object soon brightened again and was seen heading toward the Mingo interchange. Colby patrolmen were in contact with Oakley police. At the time, Colby lost sight of the object heading south east, Oakley police picked it up with binoculars.

"After disappearing for a few minutes, 'a very bright coloured object appeared in the sky where it seemed to us to be over Gem,' Carter said. The object moved and seemed to be over the Rexford area. The object remained there until about 6.00 a.m. when it disappeared completely. Between about 3.00 a.m. and 6.00 a.m., a number of other smaller objects were seen streaking back and forth across the sky.

"The objects sometimes approached the large one. They 'just sat there and hovered and streaked off and then came into the same area,' Brown said.

"Although an exact size was nearly impossible to determine, both estimated it at about 18 to 20 feet by 30 to 35 feet in size. 'All I can say is it was big,' Carter said.

"Carter said he never felt threatened

Police officer Carter (left) examines the paddock

by the object, even when he was quite close to it, but 'I just got to thinking how puny I was compared to whatever that object was.'

"Carter and Brown both said they were UFO-disbelievers until the Saturday sightings. 'I read some books on this stuff,' Carter said, 'but I was a firm non-believer up until about seven after two this morning (Saturday). I found that I could change my mind pretty fast.'

"Neither would make any guesses as to what they might have seen, but knew they had seen something.

"Earl Wood Jr. of the Oakley Police Department generally agreed with Carter's and Brown's description. He said that he and his partner, Duane Nelson, identified six lights on the object and had 'no trouble identifying that it was circular.'

"Both the Oakley and Colby police officials said that when the objects passed, debris seemed to fall. Nothing was later found in the area however. 'When these objects passed, it looked like a lot of falling stars, like debris falling off,' Woods said.

"Woods said the three lights on the front of the object were white and those in back flashed from red to green.

"Another eyewitness was Dr. W. L Johnson of Colby, who saw a UFO as he stood in the front yard of his home at about 6.08 a.m.

The object had orange-red flashing lights when he first saw it in the sky southwest of his home on North Range. It moved south and hovered over the experiment station for a few minutes, then moved straight north, maintaining about the same altitude.

After a minute or so, the object seemed to move toward Johnson's house and rapidly gained altitude. At this point, it changed to a blue-green colour and was the largest that it was during the sighting. It appeared to be about four feet across at that distance and at that height.

"It moved southwest and remained stationary for a couple of minutes, then started climbing and disappeared at about 6.20 a.m. Dr. Johnson said there was no sound and that he has no idea what it was."

Credit to **David Weidl** of Hopewell, N.J.

SOUTH AFRICA
Object follows couple in car

The Kimberley newspaper, *Diamond Fields Advertiser* of August 30, 1972, carried the following account—

"An unidentified flying object followed a Kimberley couple, Mr. Koos Harmse and Miss Daphne Vertue for about one and a half hours on the Schmidtsdrift road on Sunday night. [August 28, 1972.]

"Mr. L. James of the Boshof area also reported seeing a UFO, this one on Monday evening. [August 29.] It was flying towards Kimberley, and had a glowing light with a red-hot tail about half-a-mile long. The UFO, which appeared low on the horizon about 8.00 p.m., was seen by Mr. James, his wife and their farm labourers.

"Mr. Harmse and Miss Vertue were travelling towards Kimberley from a farm in the Limeacres district between 8.00 and 9.30 p.m. The object, described as a 'thing four times the size of a star which constantly changed colours,' was first sighted at Schmidtsdrift bridge. 'It was in between the hills,' said Miss Vertue.

" 'We saw a big star in between the mountains but took no notice of it at first. We crossed the bridge and were stopped by a kudu in the middle of the road. We looked at the animal and then I noticed the veld on the left side of the road looked as it it was on fire. Suddenly the flames disappeared and we saw two rows of lights, more or less in the shape of port holes on a ship. One ran under the other and level with our car. We could distinctly see each separate window and it seemed as if there was a big bright spotlight on the front of the object. It was a dull orange colour.

" 'We got back into the car and moved away from it because I was so scared. But then when we stopped again we found it had followed us. By this time it had changed colour and shape. Through dense bush it looked like a big white spotlight, but on open stretches of land it again looked like an object with orange windows and a big spotlight on the front.

" 'By this time I was near to tears because the faster we went, the faster this object followed us. And every time we stopped it stopped too. What made it worse was that when we got to the milestone about 25 miles outside town, this object seemed to split into four bright white lights. These lights drifted with us until we reached the prison. Then they vanished.'

"Many other people sighted the object, reports about which were made to the police."

Credit: **Philipp Human.**

JAPAN
Pacific UFO off Okinawa

The following UPI report, originating from Hong Kong on September 23, 1972, was reported in the *Japan Times* of September 24, 1972—

"Crewmen of a Trans World Airline (TWA) flight Friday [September 22, 1972—Editor] sighted an Unidentified Flying Object travelling at 'outer space speed' southeast of Okinawa Prefecture, a TWA spokesman said Saturday.

"The spokesman said Capt. D. Shifflet and two crew-members of TWA 745 flying from Okinawa to Bangkok saw the object appearing 'as a brilliant bluish-white ball' at 11.00 a.m. when they were cruising 10,000 metres over the western Pacific, about 560 km. southeast of Okinawa.

" 'Capt. Shifflet reported the unidentified object was travelling in a south-southeasterly direction at outer space speed,' the spokesman said.

" 'The object was best described as appearing to be a space object as its passage was too fast for a comet though the main body was similar to that of a comet,' he said.

"The spokesman said the object, which was 'several times the magnitude of the brightest planet,' was approximately visible for one minute and was also seen by Flight 985 of KLM Royal Dutch Airlines."

Credit to **Jun-Ichi Takanashi,** Chairman of the Modern Space Flight Association of Osaka, Japan, who comments that a few Japanese newspapers carried the report in the corners of their foreign news pages. [*At least they did report the incident, which is something for which we should be thankful!*—Editor.]

Okinawa UFO photographed

The following item appeared in the *Mainichi Daily News* of September 28, 1972 (English-language newspaper)—

"Naha, Okinawa—A mysterious flying object spotted over Okinawa by a pilot of a Trans World Airlines plane one night [*September* 22, *see previous report*—Editor] last week was photographed by a student of a senior high school, it was learned here.

"He is Masahiro Asanuma, 21, a correspondence course student of a Naha senior high school, who snapped the UFO when it flashed across the skies about 8.30 p.m. last Friday.

"The picture was taken in Nago City in northern Okinawa, but the rapidly travelling object was also observed in Shuri, Naha City, *three days later* (?). [*Our italics, and question mark*—Editor.]

"Asanuma said that he happened to be gazing at the Moon with some 40 classmates on the lawn of a youth centre where he was attending a class.

"A strange flaming object, brighter than the full moon, appeared in the north-north-western sky and shot over to the east . . . Asanuma, who had his camera with him, took four pictures.

"The phenomenon was reported by more than 10 persons at other spots in the cities of Nago and Koza . . ."

Credit to **Courtlandt Babcock** from "somewhere in Japan."

[*A newspaper reproduction of one of Mr. Asanuma's photographs accompanied the article. Readers may like to know that Mr. Jun-Ichi Takanashi sent us reports of the photographs that appeared in "Mainichi Shinbun" and "Yomiuri Shinbun" of September* 27 (*with translations*). *He is endeavouring to obtain prints of one or more of the photographs, in which case* Flying Saucer Review *would hope to present a more detailed report of the incident*—Editor.]

CHINA

Unusual "meteor" in Chinese history

Our reader **Richard Heiden** of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, has sent us the following interesting account from the year 235 A.D., which he unearthed in page 245 of *The Astronomical Chapters of the Chin Shu*, by Li Shun-feng (620-670 A.D.), edited and translated by Ho Peng Yoke, and published by Mouton and Co., Paris, 1966. The item appeared under the sub-heading "Meteors and Meteor Streams."

"During the 13th year of the Chien-Hsing reign period of (Emperor) Hou Chu of the Shu (Kingdom) (+235) Chuko Liang led a large army against the Wei (Kingdom). When his troops were stationing at Wei-nan [footnote gives the name in Chinese characters—R.H.] a red meteor with pointed rays fell from north-east towards south-west into his camps. The meteor moved to and fro three times above the camps, being of a greater magnitude each time on its forward movement than its return. According to the standard prognostication whenever two armies faced each other a large meteor moving above one of them, or falling down on it, it would be an omen of defeat. During the ninth month (30th September to 29th October—Julian calendar) Liang died in his camp, and his army burnt its own tents when it withdrew. His Generals (also) harboured hatred against one another, so much so that they fought among themselves."

NORTH VIETNAM

Sky spy, or UFO, over Hanoi?

From the *Asahi Evening News* (Japan) of September 30, 1972, we learn that—

"Sept. 29—A mysterious object appeared in the clear blue sky over Hanoi today, attracting missile fire from the ground but apparently remaining motionless. It was spherical in shape and a luminous orange in color, and was clearly at a very high altitude.

"Of the many theories put forward here to explain this object—supported by several foreign correspondents—was that it could be a new type of observation balloon to provide television pictures of activities in the Hanoi region."

Credit to **Courtlandt Babcock.**

BRAZIL

Disc accompanies aeroplane

We are indebted to reader **Richard W. Heiden** of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, for sending us the following translation of a news item carried in a São Paulo (Brazil) newspaper of August 10, 1971:

" 'It was an apparatus like two basins, one on top of the other, and it emitted an intense orange light.' That is how Vicente Lopes Buono, pilot for 24 years, described for the authorities of the Uberaba airport the unidentified flying object that accompanied him yesterday for 20 minutes on the flight from Belo Horizonte to Uberaba.

"Vicente Lopes Buono was piloting the PP-DHU airplane when, 50 minutes before arriving at Uberaba, he discerned the object, which was flying at an altitude of 2,400 metres and at a distance of approximately ten kilometres. He tried, in vain, to communicate with the Brasilia Air Base, and then called the Uberaba airport. The flight controller, Sgt. Falcão, decided that he should reconnoitre the machine. It was 9.00 a.m. and the plane was between the cities of Pratinha and Sacramento.

"Lopes Buono tried the approach, but the object always maintained its distance until they were flying over the locality called 'Barragem do Estreito,' at barely 10 km. from Uberaba. There the flying object went away at a dizzying speed and disappeared. 'I never saw anything like it in my entire career as a pilot,' says Lopes Buono, who gave a statement to Sgt. Silvio Motta, commander of the Brazilian Air Force unit in Uberaba."

Richard Heiden comments: The flight from Belo Horizonte to Uberaba would be directly westward, over the southern part of the state of Minas Gerais. Sacramento is precisely between the two cities, being somewhat closer to the latter than to the former. Pratinha and Barragem do Estreito I have not been able to locate. Brasilia, with whose air base the pilot tried to communicate, is quite some distance north of the route taken by the 'plane, even farther than Uberaba is from Belo Horizonte, so one wonders why he tried to contact its air base at all.

Watkins

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Artwork by Terence Collins

SWEDEN

Six Lilliputian planes?

A small village, Bönträsk, situated five miles north of Överkalix, was visited by six strange objects in broad daylight on Wednesday, October 11, 1972, according to an engineer, Halvard Persson, and his mother. They described the objects as "Delta-winged Lilliputian planes."

Both witnesses live beside a large lake. At noon, on a clear sunny day, they were outside the house. Halvard Persson said: "Suddenly there was a loud buzzing sound in the air. I looked up and my eyes alighted upon six incredibly small aeroplanes—I can't describe them otherwise—which came from the south and flew across the whole length of the lake. And what terrific speed! In 30 seconds or so they had reached the end of the lake which is 7 kilometres long. The formation split into two parts and three of the objects headed north and the others north-west. A strange thing was that the small planes resembled our Dragons, which always fly at high altitudes, but we didn't hear any engine noise. They were almost 700-800 metres away from us; I can't remember if they had any colour. They looked like Lilliputian planes—just about 30 centimetres in length. I've never seen anything like that before."

Credit: Åke **Franzén** of Skärholmen, Sweden.

Note by Assistant Editor (EB):

Small though the objects may have been, we wonder whether they were as small as the witnesses believed. Would an object (presumably non-luminous) only 30 cms. in length be seen at a distance of 7 kilometres, or did the aircraft merely give an illusion that they had reached the far end of the lake?

UFOs of small dimension are not uncommon, and a bizarre instance of one of these was reported in **Phénomènes Inconnus,** *No.* 3, 1972 (25, *rue Denfert-Rochereau,* 38000 *Grenoble, France). My translation of the account follows:*

SPAIN

Mini-UFO silences radio

In a report dated June 25, 1972, we read that—

"A monk at Logrono, south of Bilbao, received a strange visit: a luminous object about 50 centimetres long entered his room in the middle of the night while he was recording a radio transmission by tape-recorder.

"The Venetian blinds at the window opened as if by magic before this UFO which stayed in the room several minutes. Javier Bosque, of the order of St. Joseph of Calasanz, stated that his radio station had become silent as soon as the receiver had been illuminated by the light emanating from the object. The UFO remained about 30 cms. from the ground, emitting sounds which were faithfully picked up by the tape recorder.

"The monk got members of the Civil Defence, and some technicians, to listen to the magnetic tape; they estimated that this was a question of a 'very rare phenomenon' and that the recording was not faked."

A REMARKABLE WOMAN'S WORTHY CAUSE

On October 22, 1964, Waveney Girvan, Editor of *Flying Saucer Review*, and, ten years earlier the driving force behind the founding of the journal, died of cancer. In the same week a friend of my family, Mrs. Yvonne Dale, learned that she too had the disease.

Once she had recovered from the initial operation, this beautiful and courageous woman decided that, in addition to looking after her husband and two young daughters, she would devote her spare time to raising funds for cancer research. Before long she reached the conclusion that this alone was not sufficient: in addition to helping the fight against the disease, she wanted also to fight against the *effects* that it had, not only on the patients but also on those who had to live with, and help them. She conceived the idea of establishing a hospice, or hospices, where patients could be given, periodically, care and treatment *while their families would be afforded periods of rest from the trials of caring for loved ones seriously ill with cancer*. Again, when the final time was on hand, the hospice would be there to receive the patient for further care. Yvonne Dale's idea was that the hospice would be open to sufferers who would all have equal standing whether or not they could afford to pay.

With astonishing single-mindedness of purpose she launched herself into the task, set up a committee, persuaded many well-known people to give her their backing, and organised the drive to mobilise all available talent, and to collect funds. All this was done in the face of the inexorable advance of her illness, and during the last two years her work was punctuated by long spells in hospital—where she still contrived to guide her husband (who took over from her as secretary) in the continuation of the task.

Yvonne Dale died in St. Bartholomew's Hospital on October 28, 1972. As *her* memorial there now exists the project for the Phyllis Tuckwell Memorial Hospice, named after the wife—who also died of cancer—of the senior surgeon who attended her, a donation of $2\frac{1}{2}$ acres of land at Milford in Surrey for the site of the project, complete architects' plans, and funds well in excess of £20,000.

A fantastic achievement by a woman who, knowing of her impending death, refused to give in without a fight. In the last years of her life Yvonne Dale was supported by the "few"; her dream, launched so successfully, and well on the way to realisation, now needs support from the "many" so that her ashes may eventually rest in a niche in the chapel of her hospice.

I feel sure that many of FSR's readers in all parts of the world would like to help this worthy cause. Enquiries, or donations, should be addressed to the Phyllis Tuckwell Memorial Hospice Ltd., c/o Mr. Charles Dale, 15 Paxton Gardens, Woodham Lane, Woking, Surrey, England.

Thank you.

CHARLES BOWEN.

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